PATLAR

Voice of Gay America

FEBRUARY 1986

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HAPPY VALENTINE'S from

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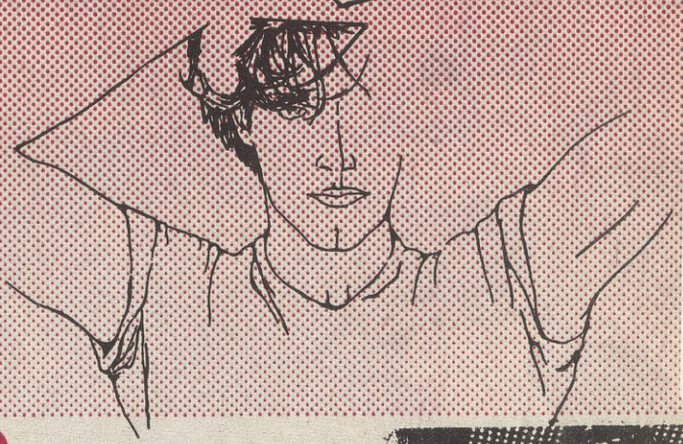
valentine \'val - ən -, tīn\ n: Sweetheart chosen or complimented on St. Valentine's Day;
sweet • heart \'swēt -, härt\ n: A loved person: LOVER;
lover \'lov • er\ n: 1. CHERISH 2. to feel a passion, devotion, or tenderness for 3. CARESS 4. to take pleasure in
friend \'frend\ n 1 : a person attached to another by respect or affection : ACQUAINTANCE

Feb



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JOLO

Gay Games Loses Appeal

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has upheld a permanent injunction issued a year ago by a U.S. District Court barring organizers of the Gay Games from using the words "Gay Olympics."

Organizers of the Gay Games say they won't appeal further if the U.S. Olympic Committee backs off seeking $96,000 in court-awarded attorney fees.

The permanent ban was won by the International Olympic Committee and the U.S. Olympic Committee against San Francisco Arts & Athletics, the event's sponsor, and Thomas P. Waddell, the SFA&A's board president.

Attorney Vaughn Walker, representing the USOC, said he was delighted with the appeals-court decision on the merits of the case but was "sorry we have to have more proceedings on the fees issue."

The appeals court said it did not have to resolve the difficult issue of equal protection guarantees or discrimination, as charged by the Gay Games group, because it found no governmental involvement in the dispute.

The Boys of Acapulco!

Lesbians Sought For AIDS Study

The inability of University of California scientists to find enough lesbians to volunteer for blood tests has slowed an attempt to learn whether artificial insemination can infect a woman with AIDS.

Since last fall, the Lesbian Insemination Project Study's directors have tried to find at least 100 female homosexuals who have had artificial insemination since 1980, but little or no sexual contact with men. The researchers want to test their blood for antibodies to AIDS. Fewer than 50 have volunteered.

Studies already show that many sperm donors during the first years of this decade were gay men.

Lesbians who want to participate should phone (415) 476-4091.

(LETTER TO THE EDITOR)

Dear Editor:

In Los Angeles County, gay and lesbian political activity has diminished over the bathhouse issue. In Orange County and other suburban counties, the AIDS backlash has made a gay endorsement undesirable. In San Diego a courageous mayor has been prosecuted. Clearly, gay and lesbian interests are on the defensive.

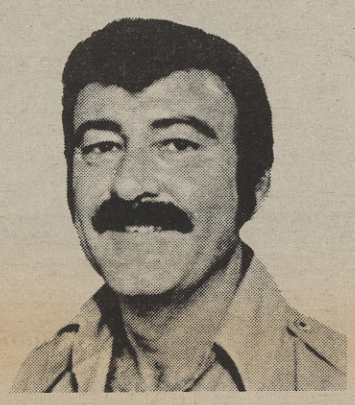
Let us look ahead, then, to the coming June elections. We have three non-partisan Municipal Court Judges to preserve and protect. Each was appointed by Governor Brown, and each shared a part of the credit for defeating the infamous Briggs initiative in our "No on Sex" campaign.

Remember their names now. When you speak to friends in their area, please remind them to remember their names and quietly talk up their candidacies. Let's do this now, before any have to announce their reelection plans. Those plans could trigger alien viewership of the gay and lesbian press for materials to be used among the bigots and zealots.

The three to remember are our staunch sister Pamela Iles in Orange County; Steve Lachs and Rand Schraeder, both doing outstanding work on the banch in Los Angeles County. Each deserves our support.

Ralph Nelson
Jon Thomason
(West Hollywood)

DOING AMERICA WITH



BOB DAMERON

ACAPULCO

Most tourists are avoiding Mexico City since the tragic earthquake last fall. Even popular resorts like Acapulco, in the state of Guerrero, are suffering from the financial aftershocks. This is, of course, ridiculous; and anyone looking for sun-drenched beaches, swimming, sailing, waterskiing, aquaplaning, scuba diving, tennis, golf, or horseback riding should, if possible, leave their snowbound cities behind and head, as the famous old song recommends, "south of the border down Mexico way."

A must for thrill seekers unique to Acapulco is parasailing. From a stand-still position, seated in sort of a harness attached to a parachute, a speedboat hauls you aloft to float high as a cloud over glistening Acapulco Bay below.

Getting to Acapulco can be half the fun. Direct daily flights connect it with Chicago, Dallas, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, and other major cities throughout the world. Return flights should be reconfirmed at least 48 hours prior to departure. Cruise ships arrive from California ports and the more adventurous may drive or travel by double-deck busses from Mexico City. Americans and Canadians must carry proof of citizenship (valid passport, birth certificate, or naturalization papers). And you will need a tourist card before entering Mexico; this is easily obtained from your travel agent or airline. Do not carry a lot of cash; take travelers checks instead. Before leaving home, convert $25 or $50 to Mexican pesos to have for tipping, taxis, etc. Learn the exchange rate. Make sure that you keep approximately 2500 pesos which you will need at the airport for your departure tax home. I have never had a suitcase opened, but don't take any chances, and never, never carry any illegal drugs.

Acapulco is a fairly easy city to get around in. Taxi cabs are readily available and inexpensive. Tour busses can show you the local sights or whisk you off to the fascinating cities of Taxco and Cuernavaca. If you do feel the need for a car, stick to a big company like Hertz. Recently my roommate and sales manager vacationed in Acapulco and had all kinds of trouble with a local rent-a-car company.

With a population of 350,000, Acapulco is one of the most suave, sophisticated, and sparkling resorts in the Americas. It is no more typical of Mexico than St. Tropez, Malibu, Portofino, or Palm Beach are of their respective countries. Tropical green-clad mountains sweep down to the blue Pacific where gentle waves caress the golden sands. Luxury hotels, condos, and other skyscrapers line sun-dazzling Acapulco Bay, while gracious haciendas and millionaires' villas dot the foothills. Aristocratic jetsetters clad in the skimpiest European fashions dash around in their smart Maseratis, Mercedes, or Rolls. International visitors rarely see the hunger, squalor, and resentment that is kept well hidden, but remains just below the surface. After all, it is not race that makes Mexicans fundamentaliy different from Americans; it is poverty.

There are no Castro or Christopher Streets in Mexico, and Acapulco's gay life is much more covert than in Key West or Provincetown for example. However, there is plenty of action, in fact far more than the three major gay bars would indicate. Many straight or bisexual latinos would never go to a gay bar, but think nothing of a toss in the hay with a partner of the same sex.

The Peacock at 12 Avenida de los Desportes is the top American-style disco; but Disco 9 on Costera Miguel Almain, one half block from Denny's, is coming along strong. The Gallery II, next door to the Peacock, features an excellent drag show.

The most infamous curising places are Condessa Beach (afternoons) and the Zocolo/Plaza Alvares (main square) later on and at night. Both abound with chicifos (hustlers) ranging in age from thirteen to twenty. Some can be very persistant, and if not interested, you have to shoo them away. The most active part of Condessa Beach is in front of Beto's (part of Blackbeard's). A beach boy will arrange an umbrella, towels, chairs, drinks, or food. Tip well if you expect favored treatment the next time. The Terrazas de las Flores, Caballero, and Bar del Puerto, located on the Zocolo, are mixed places catering mostly to locals. (See the '86 Address Book for more details.)

Acapulco offers a great variety of accommodations. The Acapulco Royale and Beach Club at Carocol 70, is somewhat of a misnomer, since it is at least a ten-minute walk uphill from Condessa Beach. The rooms are modest, with no TV or radio, but are air conditioned. A room costs only about $50 US daily, and security is excellent. You can take a local back to your room, but only if he/she is screened before entering, and not allowed out without your permission.. Supposedly the Hotel Luna del Mar has an open policy, but I cannot vouch for it personally. Luxury hotels like the Acapulco Princess, Hyatt Continental, Las Brisas, or Pierre Marquis are heaven on earth, but there is no way you can entertain a local visitor at night.

For elegant straight dining, try Chez Guillaume, Le Gourmet at the Princess, Cayuca 22, Blackbeard's (the current "in" restaurant which features what are possibly the best steaks in Mexico), Portofino, Carlos 'n Charlie's, Normandie, and the beautiful and sympatico Villa Demos. Both Denny's restaurants, Beto's, and Sanborn's are good for burgers, snacks—and are cruisy too.

Many visitors love to watch the famous dive from La Quebrada, best viewed from an expensive nightclub at an adjacent hotel. This is where young divers, using split-second timing, plunge forty meters below into a rough sea between treacherous cliffs.

In other parts of Mexico, you can live like a king for very few American dollars. Not so Acapulco. Living it up here for two weeks will cost a king's ransom, or at least a sizeable strain on your credit cards—which, incidentally, are accepted nearly everywhere.

"AT WORK"

by
Stephen Husa
and
Stephen Dolainski

Working In A Non-Gay Environment: A Practical Approach

Being gay in a non-gay work environment can be a problem. Dealing with negative attitudes about homosexuality in the workplace, whether in a corporate boardroom or a department store stockroom, presents very real, daily concerns for many of us.

We need to know how to handle our homosexuality on the job, so we can deal with those attitudes practically and successfully. The place to begin is not with other people's attitudes about homosexuality, but with our own. "If we can't feel good about ourselves," say Ken Ross and Jim Staebler, clinical psychologists in Beverly Hills, "then we can't expect others to react positively to us."

A clinical cliche? Not necessarily. When faced with having to work every day with a homophobic colleague, how else do we begin to diffuse the situation than by marshalling our own positive self-esteem? Self-esteem alone won't solve the problem, of course; but without it, we can't put the situation into perspective. And without perspective, we can't find ways to

Continued next page.

THE PATLAR

Voice of Gay America

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resolve the issue, whatever it is.

The issues are many—from one as seemingly uncomplicated as handling a wisecraking coworker to one as complex and sensitive as dealing with the subject of AIDS. But in every case, developing a strategy to tackle the issue will at least arm us with the determination and self-confidence to face it and, hopefully, resolve it.

A case in point, and one that is timely as we recover from last month's crush of holiday parties: Marcia Hawkes, a Montebello, California therapist who prefers the term "confidence counselor," recently conducted a series of workshops for gay men and lesbians that were designed to teach people how to relax and feel more comfortable in a social situation. A lack of social confidence has nothing to do with gayness necessarily, says Hawks, although being in or out of the closet can compound self-consciousness, particularly in a non-gay social setting like an office party.

Chief among Hawkes' confidence-building techniques are goal-setting and self-reward.

"Even though an office party may be called a 'party,' it really is a work-related activity, not a social event," says Hawkes. "That means you're there for business reasons, not personal ones. And you can increase your chances of success, even of having fun, when you put the event in perspective and establish a few concrete goals.

"Your goals might be to arrive at the 'party,' greet your boss, converse briefly with each of the sales directors present, then leave after one hour. Achieving these goals will give you a sense of accomplishment, and you'll probably decide that you had fun, too."

Hawkes adds emphatically, "Then reward yourself. Go out dancing or buy yourself a present."

It's easy to dismiss social awkwardness as a relatively insignificant problem when there are more pressing issues like discrimination to deal with. But in its own way, resolving that awkwardness is a step toward enhancing our self-esteem and handling our sexuality. That in turn can help others handle it as well.

As gay men and women, our position in the non-gay working environment is unique—often difficult. Frequently, we are without the support of friends or trusted colleagues and must fend for ourselves, relying on instinct and whatever strategies we have developed. "At work" will focus on offering the kind of practical information and insight we need to enhance our position and help us succeed in a non-gay work setting.

Our column next month will deal with: Building a Support Network.

BLUE CROSS DENIES CHARGE

A Blue Cross official, Larry Rodriggs, announced recently that contrary to a lawsuit that claims the company has refused to cover an insured victim, that the health insurance firm will indeed pay claims for AIDS patients.

"There is no truth at all to the statements that Blue Cross would not pay claims for a person who has AIDS," said Rodriggs, speaking for the insurance firm.

The remarks came a day after a lawsuit was filed by James Litzenberger, a San Francisco man diagnosed has having AIDS. He claimed Blue Cross refused to payt medical bills arising from his treatment.

Rodriggs, however, did acknowledge that "in-house" problems led to a refusal by Blue Cross to pay one medical bill submitted by Litzenberger.

"Private Thoughts"

by Frederic Schoonmaker
Chairman, NALAG

The National Association of Lesbians and Gays (NALAG) is creating the first vacation resort and residential community for gay people. People constantly say what a great and needed project Stonewall Park is and how they look forward to visiting or living there. But, let's take a good look at what Stonewall Park is really accomplishing.

Stonewall Park is telling the world that we exist! That we have feelings! That there are over 24 million of us who want to live without harassment! That we deserve equality! Stonewall Park is our living symbol to the world that we will no longer live in fear! Stonewall Park can help focus the injustice gays have suffered over the years.

If our priorities as human beings were in proper order, the leaders of this world would work to solve the differences...and no one else would have to die for them. Solving problems instead of making bombs is harder work, so the only logical conclusion is that we have lazy leaders, on all sides.

As a people, our first priority should be equality. Looking around our country, how many churches, politicians, federal, state and local governments, or institutions are really worth a damn in just recognizing us—the second largest minority in the United States—let alone giving us equality?

Stonewall Park should not be a project with huge implications, but our people are so far off the track that it is an extremely important step forward not only for lesbians and gays, but for all people.

We, as a group, must help drag the world into reality by making our life better for ourselves. Then we can help focus the attention of the world on some of the things that are real problems.

It is very important that you help NOW! I realize not everyone is ready to step our of the closet, but you can do so silently. Write a check now to a lesbian or gay organization or entity that you would like to support...if you do not know any, then call me at (702) 322-8093, and I will give you names and addresses. (If you should choose Stonewall Park—for we also need your support, best wishes, and dollars to put our piece of the puzzle in place—our address is Suite 350, 350 S. Center Street, Reno, NV 89501.) But most importantly, give some worthy organization a break. After all, those organizations are out there taking it on the chin for you.

Jerry's Jewels

by Jerry Pietrosewicz

Last month I told you about the various types of garnet and which of them would be good investments—what factors make that type of stone more valuable than others. This month I will elaborate on those factors in a more general fashion.

There are five basic attributes that a precious stone must have. (One or two of these aspects, when lacking, make a stone into what is term "semi-precious," or a collector stone, as I will explain later.) These characteristics are as follows:

PORTABILITY: Obviously, if you can't lug it around with you, you're not going to want it. Most gemstones are portable. That's why they are in rings, brooches, or necklaces. However, several years ago at the International Gem Show in Washington, D.C., I did see an opal which weighed several pounds. Where anyone would wear it, I have no idea. It was pretty, but it really belonged in a museum.

BEAUTY: Even semi-precious stones are beautiful. Some very common ones are gorgeous! But, unfortunately, this characteristic seems to be the least important.

DURABILITY: Ah, here's the rub! If you can rub the polish off it, why would you want to wear it?

Guess what the toughest gemstone is? Diamond, right? Nope. Diamond is the hardest, not the toughest. Cutters cut diamond after it is cleaved. The toughest stone, in my book and in most people's, is jade. While cutting jade, on several occasions an errant piece has done devastating damage to my brick wall when being thrown from the cutting wheel. Despite this, most jade is not very well polished, though it can take a mirror polish if the gem cutter knows his stuff.

Hardness is a factor in durability (diamonds are the most durable faceted stone, no question). A long sliver of opal is extremely fragile; a long sliver of diamond would be breakable; a long sliver of jade, ⅛ inch thick, would tax your strength to break. By the way, diamonds cut glass; but so does every other gemstone down to and including quartz. This, therefore, is not a test a gemologist would want to use.

To summarize, durability is affected by hardness, cleavability, and finally density. Durability is the characteristic that most semi-precious and many collector stones lack.

RARITY: This characteristic is the one that all precious and collector stones have in common.

What's the rarest gemstone in the world? In order of rarity, at the moment alexandrite is the rarest. Several years ago, Harry Winston, the New York jeweler, sent a guy out looking for alexandrites larger than a few carats; and he's still looking! (Beware: The one you have is probably synthetic, so don't get your hopes up.) "Pigeon's Blood" ruby is the next rarest. It's blood red and from Burma; and if you can find one that's certifiable, BUY IT! Emeralds of excellent quality follow. What about diamonds? Their scarcity is a controlled one. The number of diamonds on the market is decided each year in Amsterdam.

All collector stones are rare. One such is benitoite, found only in San Benito, California. I have in my collection a cuprite. It is a beautiful ruby-red color inside, but it has a silvery metallic sheen on its facets. A diamond is carbon that has undergone enormous pressure; my extremely rare cuprite, as you might have guessed from the name, is copper that has undergone this same type of pressure.

VOGUE & FASHION: No, I'm not selling magazines here. These characteristics are extremely important in the worth of gemstones. You can't sell what people won't buy. A good example is the gemtstone turquoise. In the seventies, everyone was wearing it; and good turquoise became quite expensive. Fakes, reconstructed stones, and inferiour quality stones were sold at incredible profits as well. A question: Are you wearing turquoise now? I've made my point, haven't I?

For those of you born in February, here's some bad news. Amethyst is February's birthstone. A hundred years ago, it was extremely valuable. It fitted into all the above characteristics, although it was not the hardest stone in the world. (It is, after all, purple quartz, like that in your back yard or the pretty little stone on the beach.) Then, after numerous discoveries in South America, most notably Brazil, the value plummeted. Today it is an extremely common, beautiful stone. In the olden days, it was a precious stone. Today, (sorry, guys) it is only semi-precious. It's everything but rare.

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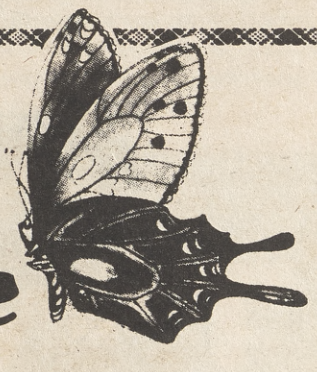

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THE KITCHEN FAIRY

WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT?

Another Valentine's Day is about to roll around (and, come to think of it, there's no better time to do a little rolling around yourself, Loverboy!). Frankly, Cupid couldn't come at a better time. After all, how long are we expected to keep that New Year's resolution to abstain from that most divinely decadent, sinfully satisfying indulgence? I am, of course, talking about dessert—sweets for the sweets, Sugar Pants!

This is that "show me you love me" holiday. So, let loose with some hard-core hedonism, Honey! Unleash the sugar, Sugar! Rise up to the occasion and make it throb. And never mind the preliminaries. Head straight for it! Abandon yourself to abandon! I mean, with love as the main course, all you need is dessert! (And maybe a little coffee and cognac.)

With that in mind, here are a few sensual tidbits that will swish your sweet off his feet—that will give him a mouthful to remember. And who knows where the sugar boost will lead? Oooh! Be My Valentine!

CHOCOLUST SOUFFLE
THE BIG BANANA SPLIT
FLANGELLATION

Chocolust Souffle
(Serves 6)

There are people who will do anything for chocolate. If you're lucky enough to know one, this souffle will make your day!

Ingredients:

2 Tablespoons sugar
2 Tablespoons unsweetened cocoa
½ cup sugar
½ cup unsweetened cocoa
1/3 cup cornstarch, sifted
1¼ cups milk
5 egg yolks
7 egg whites
A pinch (oooh!) cream of tartar
2 Tablespoons confectioner's sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla

Preparation:

1. Preheat your oven to 375 degrees.
2. Butter a 1½ quart souffle dish, well. Mix the 2 Tablespoons sugar and 2 Tablespoons cocoa and dust the souffle dish with the mixture.
3. Cut a 12-inch band of foil, fold it in half lengthwise and butter one side of it. Fit it around the top of the souffle dish to make a collar standing about 4 inches above the rim of the dish. (Your souffle is gonna rise!!!)
4. Sift the ½ cup of sugar and cocoa into a saucepan with the cornstarch. Whisk in the milk in a stream and cook over medium-low heat till the mixture is thick and smooth.
5. Put the mixture in a bowl and beat in the egg yolks one at a time. Beat it up well after each yolk.
6. In a big mixing bowl, beat your egg whites with the pinch (oooh!) of cream of tartar till they hold soft peaks.
7. Add the 2 Tablespoons confectioner's sugar to the egg whites and beat them till stiff!
8. Stir the vanilla into the chocolate mixture.
9. Gently, but thoroughly, fold the egg white into the chocolate mixture.
10. Pour the mixture into the souffle dish.
11. Bake for 50 minute or till sides have shrunk slightly from the collar.
12. Remove the collar and serve toute suite (right away, Sugar). To really overdo it, serve with chocolate ice cream!

The Big Banana Split
(Serves 2)

Give him a nice, big banana for Valentine's Day and watch where things go from there!

Ingredients:

2 large bananas
Ice Cream: Vanilla, Chocolate, Strawberry
Sauces: Hot Fudge, Frozen Strawberries (thawed), Butterscotch Whipped Cream
Chopped Nuts (ouch!): Pecans and Walnuts
Maraschino Cherries

Preparation:

1. Peel your bananas (oooh!), split them lengthwise and lay them open in a banana-split dish!
2. Lay out all your goodies and let every man concockt his own banana fantasy!

Flangellation
(Serves 2)

My dear, this has what is known as great "mouth feel!" And, conveniently, you can whip it up the night before!

Ingredients:

6 Tablespoons sugar
2 Tablespoons water
A pinch (feels so good) of cream of tartar
¾ cup milk
1 egg
2 egg yolks
2 Tablespoons plus 2½ teaspoons of sugar
2 Tablespoons of orange juice, strained
1½ teaspoons of orange-flavored liquer
½ teaspoon grated orange peel

Preparation:

1. Put the 6 Tablespoons of sugar, the water, and the cream of tartar in a small, heavy skillet over medium-low heat. Stir to dissolve the sugar.
2. Turn up your heat to medium high and do not stir. Cook, watching carefully, till the mixture turns a deep caramel brown.
3. Pour the caramel into two ¾-cup custard cups, coating their bottoms (my!) evenly.
4. Preheat your oven to 325 degrees.
5. Scald the milk and heavy cream. (Bring them just to a boil.)
6. In a bowl, beat up the egg, egg yolks, and sugar till just combined.
7. Stirring constantly, add the hot milk and cream in a stream.
8. Add the orange juice, liquer, and orange peel.
9. Ladle the mixture into the two custard cups.
10. Set the custard cups in a baking pan and place the pan on the oven rack. Pour enough boiling water into the pan to reach halfway up the sides of the custard cups.
11. Cover the pan with a cookie sheet and bake for 30 minutes or till a knife inserted in the center of the custard comes out clean.
12. Remove the custards from the baking pan. Let them cool and chill them overnight.
13. When ready to serve, run a knife around the edge of each custard cup. Put a dessert plate over each custard and invert the custard onto the plate. Kiss. Kiss.

The Kitchen Fairy

HOROSCOPES FOR THE HORNY!

by Dr. Pat Larr

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18): You've avoided commitment long enough. Yes, those are wedding bells you hear, and just wait until you see the size of the clapper!

PISCES (Feb 19-Mar 20): You're tempted to blow the whistle on a troublesome friend until he produces something else to wrap your lips around.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19): You're drawn to a mysterious stranger who's strangely drawn to you. Feel free to feel freely.

TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20): Don't let that special someone's continued tardiness get to you. Remember, he who comes last comes best.

GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20): That special someone throws down a warning flag when you're caught fondling someone you're fond of. Yes, there'll be a penalty on this play.

CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 22): Knowing how you hate restrictions of any kind, that special someone of yours gives you lots of space. This month you can run amok! Just remember to come home when you're done.

LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22): It's thighs and whispers time for you and that special someone. Your chance to cuddle up by a crackling fire and fan old flames.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22): Now is not the time to discuss finances with your partner. Keep him too busy to talk or find something else to stick in his mouth.

LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22): Stick to your guns this month. Keep your weight down and build those finances up. When Venus enters your sign next month, you'll be prepared to party.

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 22): Unpleasant facts concerning a former flame come to light. Time to drop that torch you've been carrying! Time for a Blow-out!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21): It's stocks and bondage time for you this month. A mysterious stranger manipulates your private assets to produce a surprising dividend.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19): Travel is highlighted this month. You long to be anywhere your special someone isn't. Yes, it's going to be that kind of month.

FAUX PAS

by Ed E. Kett

Dear Edwards,

It would seem that earrings for men are currently in style. Being a gentleman approaching the autumn of my years, this has been a cause for confusion on my part. In my day, a gentleman sporting a gold stud in his ear lobe could usually be counted on to accept my modest proposals. Not so today, as I found out recently much to my chagrin. Is it possible to determine someone's sexual preference by their jewelry?

Samuel
(Ft. Worth)

Dear Samuel,

Of course not! A stud is a stud, and an earring is a fashion statement. Obviously you've been looking for love in all the wrong places.

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AUSTIN

A grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan has joined the Texas governor's race, proclaiming that Texans are fed up with homosexuals, illegal aliens, and a school system that mixes whites and minorities.

Charles Lee, a grand dragon of the Knights of the White Camelia, one of the five Klan groups in Texas, said he is running as a write-in candidate against Gov. Mark White.

"We're a political organization, and that's why I've decided to come out and run for governor," said Lee, who appeared on the steps of the state Capitol wearing a white robe and hood. "We're starting here in January and we'll be on the road until November."

RENO

A suit challenging Nevada's "anti-homosexual" law, which was filed in the 1st District Court, has been dismissed because of legal technicalities.

The suit challenging the sodomy law was filed by Reno attorney, Rod Sumpter. The suit is a part of a nationwide effort by the National Gay Rights Advocates of San Francisco, contesting laws prohibiting sexual conduct between persons of the same gender.

An appeal to the dismissal was filed, but a decision on the appeal is not expected until March or April, 1986.

FARGO

Metropolitan Community Church Fargo-Moorhead has moved to be new location—the rented basement of Unitarian-Universalist Church, 18 S. 8th St. Fargo.

MCC has been worshiping at the Unitarian Church for nearly a year, but the basement space will allow greater flexibility and access for groups.

TORONTO

A Parliamentary committee has recommended that the Canadian government pass a national gay-rights law that would cover the military, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, federal-security clearances, and age-of-consent laws. The recommendations would have the affect of bringing all Canadian laws in line with a broad interpretatin of Section 15 of the nation's Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The seven-member committee, composed of both liberals and conservatives, has been conducting hearings on the need for a national law banning discrimination based on sexual orientation. Although the committee's final recommendations were unanimous, there is no certainty that they will be enacted into law. However, Justice Minister John Crosbie has promised that legislation relating to the recommendations will be introduced soon.

A Gallup poll financed by a Toronto gay organization shows that 70 percent of Canadians favor outlawing anti-gay discrimination.

OMAHA

The River City Mixed Chorus is auditioning for new members. Persons who want to be considered should call (402) 455-2334 or write The River City Mixed Chorus, PO Box 315, Omaha, NE 68101-0315.

The next scheduled performance will be Easter Sunday, March 30.

The Chorus also needs additional "friends" to help put on shows. Volunteers are needed to arrange performance space and, lighting, to do audio and/or video taping, to obtain and set up pianos and risers, and to have programs printed and ready on time, and to help with publicity and ticket sales.

KAUNAKAKAI

A beauty pageant in Kaunakakai on Molokai in Hawaii recently created a controversy between church groups and Polynesians.

The pageant was designed to feature mahus, gay women or men, who have always had a special place in Polynesian culture.

It has long been common for Polynesian parents who had no daughters or not enough help for so-called female chores to designate a son to help in such duties as cooking and cleaning. The practice continues in some parts of Hawaii, Tahiti, and the Samoas. Polynesians have long recognized that homosexuality is something that occurs among humans.

However, church groups cited scriptures and said that homosexuality and transvestism was immoral. Twelve of the island's 27 churches opposed the pageant.

The organizer of the pageant, Billy Kaiihue, maintains that mahus are in the mainstream of Molokai's culture. "Our local transvestites work for the county and the state. They serve tourists at the airport. They wait on tables at our restaurants." Adds Kaiihue, "We all believe in the Bible, even transvestites."

CHICAGO

Voices in Action, a National Incest Survivors Network, provides referral services and information to incest survivors. The group, which is staffed by volunteers, also sponsors programs for lovers, friends, and families. It also publishes a newsletter.

For more information, contact ***Voices in Action, Inc.***, PO Box 148309, Chicago, IL 60614; telephone (312) 327-1500.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Recently in the nation's capital city, San Francisco's Mayor, Dianne Feinstein, told a U.S. Conference of Mayors' session on AIDS that gay organizations in San Francisco "will regret" opposing her campaign to close that city's bathhouses.

"It has been established that bathhouses contribute to the spread of AIDS and they ought to be closed," Feinstein said.

She said that her two-year campaign to close the bathhouses has been opposed by gay groups that believe a civil-rights issue rather than a public-health issue is involved.

She said she expects the San Francisco city attorney's office to move within the next few months to close city bathhouses that are not following court guidelines for operating to reduce the spread of AIDS.

ATLANTA

Edward Johnson was so upset by listening to the Rev. Jimmy Swaggart preach about AIDS and homosexuals on Jerry Falwell's *Old Time Gospel Hour* that he bought a modem for his personal computer and programmed it to call Falwell's 800 telephone number. His home computer automatically dialed the TV evangelist's toll-free number every 30 seconds for eight months, with the total number of calls estimated at well over 300,000.

Johnson, a self-employed computer analyst, stopped the calls after Southern Bell threatened to cut off his phone service.

A spokesman for Falwell said that the calls may have cost as much as a dollar each and that Falwell was planning to sue Johnson. But Johnson said he might run his program again from a different phone, noting that it took the telephone company and Falwell several months to find him the first time.

LANSING

The Lesbian/Gay Council Rap is designed to provide a safe environment in which people may meet and learn more about gay issues. All meetings begin at 6:30 PM Sundays and are held in the Illinois Room on the third floor of the Michigan State University Union Building. Topics for upcoming weeks are: Feb. 2—"An Act of Choice: Considerations of Lifestyle"; Feb. 9—"AIDS: The Local Response to the Crises"; Feb. 16—"Parenting: possibilities/-Problems"; Feb. 23—"Formation of Sexual Identity"; and Mar. 2—"The Buddy Program."

MINNEAPOLIS

Quatrefoil Library will open its doors for business in February. The Minnesota gay library is located at 1021 West Broadway Avenue, Minneapolis.

The Library currently has more than 1500 volumes, archival materials, and files of newspapers and periodicals, including a reprint edition of *The Mattachine Review* from its inception to its demise. Some books date back to the '20s and '30s; many are out of print, scarce, rare, and difficult or impossible to find in public libraries.

Named after the novel by James Barr, Quatrefoil Library is one of only three such gay and lesbian collections in the country. The others are in Los Angeles and Chicago.

Tentative hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays 7 to 10 PM and Saturdays 10 AM to 4 PM. The Library's telephone number is (612) 522-7185.

The Library is also seeking donations of audio-visual programs and other materials, such as current and back issues of newsletters, magazines, old files and correspondence, posters, photographs, buttons, newspaper clippings, and personal diaries and papers.

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FEB 7-8: ——— MAD MAX, BEYOND THUNDERDOME & A BOY AND HIS DOG.
FEB 9-10: ——— *KUROSAWA FILM FESTIVAL:* IKIRU & DODES' KA-DEN.
FEB 11: ——— AN EVENING WITH ALAN WATTS.
FEB 12: ——— Premiere: ONE FROM THE HEART & CHOOSE ME.
FEB 13-15: ——— *Revival Premiere:* JULES AND JIM & THE 400 BLOWS.
FEB 16-22: ——— INTERNATIONAL TOURNEE OF ANIMATION.

See the Sacramento Bee & Union for shows and showtimes on our other screens.

BOSTON

There is an increasing demand on the resources of Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders to combat discrimination that people throughout New England experience resulting from the fear of AIDS. GLAD has been active in the areas of employment, housing, medical care, and issues of confidentiality in the insurance industry.

In 1985, legal problems connected with AIDS took a substantial portion of the group's resources and the problems continue to multiply.

The gay community also has been faced with a challenge the right to parent. Increasing numbers of gays, acting on their desires to be parents, have turned to adoption and foster parenting as ways in which to fulfill this desire.

In Massachusetts, the Department of Social Services took two children away from their already approved gay foster parents when newspaper publicity made their sexual orientation known to the general public. Subsequently, the state, against all advice and testimony given by social-service agencies, made it virtually impossible for gays to become foster parents.

On the heels of the Massachusetts foster-care ruling, the State of New Hampshire passed legislation which explicitly prohibits gays from adopting and/or becoming foster parents. GLAD is challenging the Massachusetts regulations and has represented the two foster parents.

For more information or to make a contribution, contact Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders, PO Box 218, Boston, MA 02112; telephone (617) 426-1350.

MODESTO

Classes for persons who want to learn Western Style Dancing have started. There is no charge. For info, contact Duane or Steve at (209) 523-5124.

* * * * *

Stanislaus Gay Alliance is a support group for gay women and men. To obtain into about the group's events, write for a copy of the SGA Newsletter, PO Box 5163, Modesto, CA 95352.

ALBUQUERQUE

Musica Femina, a flute-guitar duo, will perform in Albuquerque. The nationally known women's duo will present classical and contemporary works by women composers.

Their concert will be held on Sunday, March 2 at 7:00 PM at the Highland Performing Arts Center at the corner of Zuni and Jackson S.E. Tickets are now on sale.

SAN FRANCISCO

The Gay Area Youth Switchboard (G.A.Y.S.) has served young gay people since 1978. It is the only youth-for-youth community switchboard.

Since its inception, the G.A.Y.S. has helped thousands of Bay Area and nationwide callers. The purposes of G.A.Y.S. are to provide referral information to community resources sensitive to lesbian/gay youth, to maintain information on lesbian/-gay youth events and activities, and to provide operators who can give peer counseling.

The G.A.Y.S. offers its services to sexual-minority youth (13-25 years of age). For further information, write PO Box 846, San Francisco, CA 94101 or call (415) 386-GAYS.

NORTH COLUMBUS

The North Columbus Friends Meeting, a Quaker group in the Ohio State University campus area, recently extended a welcome to gay people to participate in religious activities.

North Columbus Friends Meeting holds weekly Meeting for Worship on Sundays at 10:00 AM, at 1954 Indianola Avenue. After singing, the group begins a period of silent worship which lasts about an hour. During the silence, some of those present share spoken messages with the group.

The Peace and Social Action Committee meets on alternate Wednesdays at 7:30 PM.

For information on Quakers or on North Columbus Friends Meeting, call (614) 291-2331.

CLEARLAKE

by Bill Mooney

Voting at the Cabaret has started for the "Sleeze of the Year." Every time a person buys a drink, he or she gets a ticket worth one vote. The ticket holder can then vote for anyone who is obviously sleezy. The award night will be February 15. Make plans to attend The Sleeze Ball at the Cabaret!...Get out your boots and hoop skirts because the Sacramento Capitol Squares are on their way. On February 22, the Cabaret will host the dancers from Sacramento with a pasta feed around 7:30 PM, with dancing to follow. The next day, brunch will be served at the Cabaret starting at 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM. To make reservations, call the resort of your choice: Blue Fish Cove (707) 998-1769; Lakeplace Resort (707) 998-3331; or Starlite Resort (707) 998-1769. The group from Sacramento will be staying at the Vacation Harbor Resort...The Cracked Skillet serves good food; Jan has afterhours on Saturday night for those who need a cup of java and a good breakfast...The Cabaret Auction is still drawing good crowds the first Thursday of each month. Bring the things that you are not using and make some money for yourself...By the way, a number of local gay people would like to see if we can get a MCC church going in this area. Something to think about...Remember, in 1986 you can always have a good time at The Lake!

WEST HOLLYWOOD

On the weekend of Valentine's Day, February 14-16, the International Gay and Lesbian Archives will present the most comprehensive exhibit of gay men's visual art ever held. Over eighty of the top gay artists and photographers will show their work. The event will be held at Fiesta Hall, Plummer Park, West Hollywood.

The show has two purposes. It will explore what gay people have been, through the eyes of gay artists, what we are, and what we are becoming; and, it will give the gay community an opportunity to appreciate gay beauty and creativity. The exhibit will present an historical perspective.

Donations for the exhibit are $15; for the Award Ceremony $25. For those persons who wish to become members of the Archives, for a regular $30 membership, one free ticket will be given. For those people who are currently members of the Archives, a 20% discount is available.

For information, telephone (213) 463-5450.

MALIBU

The Advocate is having a nationwide sweepstakes to celebrate its new standard magazine format. Grand Prize is a Hawaiian Dream Vacation for two including airfare and seven days at a deluxe Waikiki hotel, plus $1000 spending money. Other prizes include paid vacations at gay hotels in San Francisco and Key West and hundreds of merchandise prizes.

The theme of the sweepstakes is "Gay Pride in Print." ***The Advocate*** chose the theme to reflect the growing sophistication of its readership and to distinguish the magazine from its past tabloid format.

Over 1,200,000 entry forms will be distributed in upcoming issues of ***The Advocate*** and its companion magazine, ***Advocate MEN***. In addition, entry forms are being distributed as inserts in several other gay publications throughout the United States.

Anyone can enter the sweepstakes by sending an official entry form or by printing his or her name and address and the words "Gay Pride in Print" on a 3" x 5" card and sending it to The ADVOCATE Sweepstakes, PO Box 8991, Malibu, CA 90265. One entry per person. No purchase necessary. Persons must be 18 years of age or older to enter and win. The sweepstakes are open only to residents of the U.S. Entries must be received by the deadline of June 30, 1986.

SANTA ANA

The California Realtors Association is advising agents to tell clients whether a former homeowner had AIDS. "The reality is that agents are being sued and threatened with lawsuits if they do not disclose this," an attorney with the statewide industry association announced.

Representatives of the gay community are concerned that such a practice might lead to discrimination against gays. "It reinforces unfounded fears," said Werner Kuhn, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Orange County. "It says the disease is different from other diseases, which it isn't."

Real estate association attorneys say the public perception of AIDS is that of a highly infectious illness. The are advising real-estate agents to reveal a previous occupant's AIDS condition primarily to protect agents from lawsuits.

Legally, agents are required to inform clients of anything that might lower the property value of a home they are considering buying.

HOLLYWOOD

The International Gay and Lesbian Archives has recently formed the AIDS History Project. Located at the Archive's headquarters in Hollywood, it offers its services at no charge to all gay-oriented AIDS organizations in order to lighten their archival workload and to insure that their histories and relevant papers are not lost.

The AIDS History Project also gathers and centralizes AIDS information and makes it available to the public for research and educational purposes.

Volunteers and donations of funds and materials are welcome. IGLA is a non-profit corporation supported by memberships and private donations only. For info, contact David Grossman, AIDS History Project at the Archives, 1654 North Hudson, Hollywood CA 90028; telephone (213) 463-5450.

ERNIE BROWN

VIEWS FROM RIVER CITY

SACRAMENTO

Well, folks, it's feathers-and-rhinestones time again in Sacramento. This month, The Sacramento Opera Association will present its third production of the season, that grandest, campiest, and madest of all operas, ***LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR*** by Gaetano Donizetti. To be sung in Italian, the performances will be on Friday, February 14 at 8:00 PM and Sunday, February 16 at 2 PM in the Community Center Theater. English Supertitles will be used for the first time in Sacramento. Tickets range from $11 to $30 and are on sale now at the Community Center Box Office (telephone 916/449-5181). The event will feature the Sacramento debut of Madame Halgrimson in the title role. There's a persistent rumor that Madame Halgrimson is indeed a truly formidable diva of a type not often seen or heard any more on the operatic stages of the world. Let us hope that the rumor is indeed fact. We opera queens are in dire need of a new "formidable diva" from the old school; things just haven't been the same in gay operatic circles since Mesdames Beverly Sills and Mary Curtis-Verna (two of the last truly "formidable divas", the latter my very first Aida ever, plus seven more in as many cities) retired. My, we old-time opera queens do have a tendency to reminisce, don't we? I'll shut up if you'll agree to NOT miss SOA's production of ***LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR***. See you there, and remember to ovate Madame Halgrimson if you think she's half as good as they say she is (such a pretty name, "Halgrimson")...Whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well. Yes, he who has put a good finish to his undertaking is said to have placed a golden crown to the whole. This certainly applies to our Emperor & Empress on the success of their Reno Holiday Trip. It was a raving success. This was my first train ride over The Sierra. It was beautiful. Winter in Wonderland. Next time, Get Aboard...The month of January in our community was kind of quiet. Thank goodness. After December, I don't think I could have taken another one in succession. However, it's now February and we have so much to look forward to. First, there is Ground Hog Day. Don't laugh. The way the weather has been, he might not see his shadow!...At The Mercantile, February 24, Yours Truly (and my name is Ernie Brown!) will have my Birthday Party, starting at 4 PM. Everyone invited. Come out and help me celebrte my 39th. Watch it: You are laughing again and my birthday is no laughing matter!...On February 27, Bobbette's "Liz Taylor Birthday Party." Watch for announcement of starting time. All proceeds go to AIDS. Next bingo game at The Merc will be Monday night, March 3. Also, Listen Up all you pisceans, your party will be held at The Merc on March 5. Starting at 4 PM, come on down and sign up, that is if your're a pisces. See Diggette for details...at The Buffalo Club, every Thursday night starting at 8 PM there is a shuffleboard contest. Speaking of The Buffalo, you should see what they are doing to the back yard for your pleasure come spring; it will be ready for you some time in April. If you are interested in getting in a pool tournament, check with The Buffalo Club. They are starting one this month-...Cleo's from now on, every third Tuesday of each month, will have bingo starting at 8 PM. All proceeds from the bingo games will go to SAGA 2 to help cover expenses for our Gay Games 86 in San Fran in August. The last bingo (blackout) game will consist of fifty CA lottery tickets...Watch for raffle tickets for a Giant Candy Heart. This is Dana Francis's second annual Candy Heart Raffle. The winner will announce at Cleo's King & Queen of Hearts Valentine Ball, Feb. 14, starting at 9 PM. All proceeds go to SAGA 2...Coming March 2, SAGA 2 Sports Banquet at Cleo's from 11 AM to 3 PM. Adm: $10 which includes some entertainment & a beautiful Sunday brunch. All the things you want to know about SAGA 2 and Gay Games 86 will be gratefully answered...On February 28, The Wreck Room will have a hoola-hoop contest. How well do you hoola? We will see. Free draft & prizes...BoJangles is really cooking, I mean really cooking. Fred is cooking up a storm, or anything else you like. Dinners there are truly wonderful. Their Sunday brunches are the best in town. It's worth the trip just to go out and see who the guest host & bartenders are. They have started a wonderful tradition: At every Sunday brunch you will see someone from our community working for charity. And it's usually a charity in our community. While you are out there, take a look at the new pool room. Rumor has it, shh shh, a new pool and a train car before spring. Remember: You heard it from me first...FACES! You won't believe it. Changes, changes, changes. Listen to this, "Jolo," the recording artist who sings "Last Call" and "Cuba Libre" will be at Faces, live, I hope to tell you, Saturday, February 15. She is a winner. The next night on the 16th is the final for 8 weeks of jockey shorts contest. First prize, $800: you heard me, eight hundred bucks! Showtime 10:30. All you sweethearts out there, Faces will be giving away one hundred dollars to the best couple. And fifty dollars for the cutest valentine, male and female...OK you King & Queen of Tarts, I mean Hearts. Let's hit it. Keep you eyes & ears open. The Rose is going to announce their new location. Soon, soon, soon. We will be waiting...The Blue Moon has a calendar full of events, so get over there & take a look. Tell Shannon that I sent you-...See you at the opera and have a Happy Valentine's Day.

NEW YORK

The Gay Veterans Association will place an information brochure in two hundred military installations throughout the United Statese. There have been several meetings between the GVA and the Director of Legislation and Legal Policy for the Department of Defense.

GVA President, John Paine, said the decision by the Department of Defense permitting the action is a milestone for the GVA in its quest for formal recognition by the armed services and veterans organizations.

For more information, contact Gay Veterans Association, 263-A West Nineteenth Street, New York, NY 10011.

William Tell Reviews:

Caribbean Cruising

"Caribbean Cruising," starring J. D. Slater as Captain Harrison, gives us more than just a travelogue.

"Caribbean" opens with a travel agent chatting to a prospective passenger. The passenger and the agent soon discover their tastes are similar and engage in a well photographed romp.

On board ship we see a very horny captain walking about his ship. When the ship makes port, our captain slips away to a quiet beach where he is approached by a handsome swimmer. The two men adjourn to a deserted shack where they get it on in just about every position imaginable. Later, the captain is haunted by the memory of this encounter.

The passengers have fun, too, on their Caribbean cruise. Horny waiters and sailors are able and willing to provide that extra service not advertised in travel brochures. The john in the crew's quarters is awash with activity.

"Caribbean Cruise" comes to an end with a Lt. Hargrave being assigned to the ship. Almost mystically the lieutenant turns out to be none other than the man on the beach who has haunted our captain. The rest is for all of us to guess.

(The video cassette of "Caribbean Cruise" was courtesy of ***Films for Days***, in Sacramento.)

GRANDFATHER'S CUPBOARD

by Charles Hall, Ph.D.
Practitioner of
Traditional Chinese Medicine

(This column is dedicated to acquainting its readers with the contents of our grandfathers' cupboards: the old-time foods, herbs, and exercises which our ancestors used to keep themselves in good health.)

HEMORRHOIDS

While traveling around the country going to Faerie Gatherings, I have occasionally given workshops on the control of hemorrhoids. The attendance is always surprising. Apparently more of us have the problem than anyone knows about.

Well, there's good news for us now. There are other ways of taking care of them besides surgery or Preparation H. I have always used the treatment frequently, and it works easily.

Simply rub the spot numbered 65 on the Bladder Meridian. This spot is located on the outer edge of the foot. To find it, put your fingertip on the little toe at the outer corner of the toenail. Trace with you fingertip along the outside of the little toe, along the line between the red and white skin and along the outer edge of the little toe. Just behind the knuckle and on the side of the foot is a hollow place where the acupoint B65 is located. If you have a hemorrhoid, this spot will be at least a little sore when you rub it. If you rub it lightly for a minute between 3 PM and 7 PM for several days running, the hemorrhoid is very likely to go away. If you are really eager, rub several times an evening. Results can be expected in three to seven days.

If results don't happen, go to an acupressurist or acupuncturist and try a stronger method. I use moxabustion (burning dried mugwort on the spot) with great success. An acupuncturist will use needles, perhaps in different acupoints but very likely with equally good success. It beats lying in an expensive hospital with gauze up your ass and the pain of surgery in your body.

There have been noticed, over the centuries, several conditions

Continued page nine.

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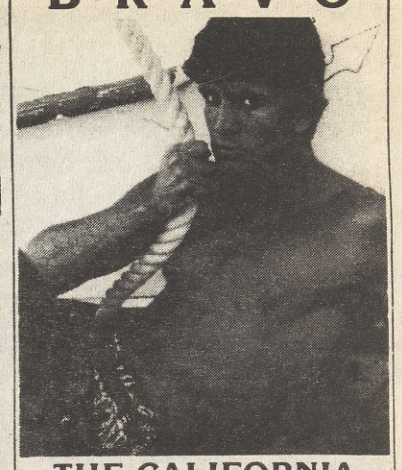
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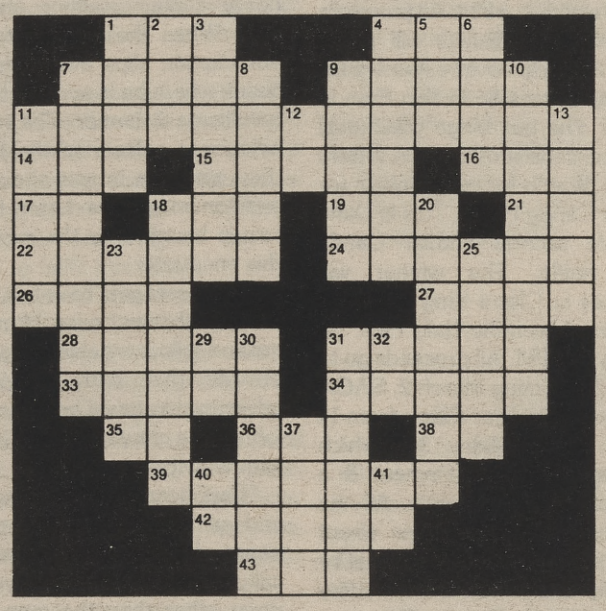

ACROSS

1. Lubricant
4. Auto club
7. Long for Roy
9. Swell outward
11. Sweetheart message
14. Designation on ship
15. Glory achievement
16. Streets (abbr.)
17. Baby Snooks real initials
18. Allied Reg. Hqds. (abbr.)
19. Romantic city
21. Height (abbr.)
22. Very best
23. Sexual craving
26. Irish tenant
27. Hole of volcano
28. Clatter
31. Ugly short one
33. Entrap
34. Make void
35. Slant (abbr.)
36. Korean soldier
38. Doctor of Science
39. Evening parties
42. Black
43. Railways (abbr.)

DOWN

1. Precious rocks
2. Suffix (state of)
3. Bed partners (reg.)
4. Mame and old queen
5. High octave or old
6. Spartan king
7. Girl gays
8. Pleasure boat
9. Masculine hair
11. Rubs and rubs
12. Deep Throat star's monogram
13. Fatty acid
18. Circus high acts
20. Donny and Marie
23. Thin tube lights
25. Heavens (Egypt)
29. Senior (abbr.)
30. Spookier
31. Opposite of givers
32. Doctor's helper (abbr.)
37. Group therapy?
40. Preposition
41. Ex officio (abbr.)

See answers page 12.

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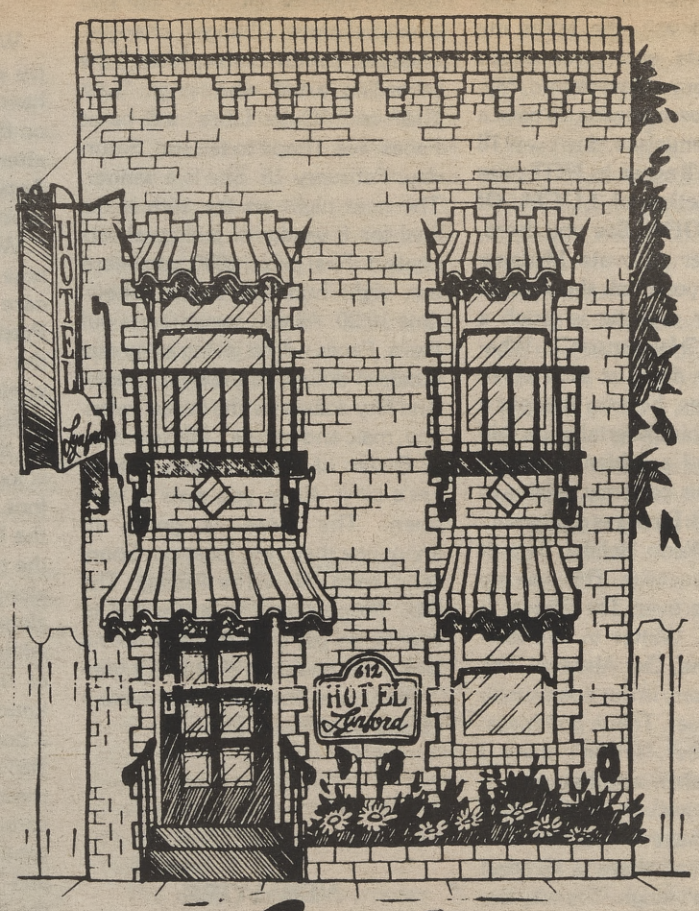

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More GRANDFATHER

which aggravate and/or produce hemorrhoids. One of these is the late night snack. Eating before going to bed was noticed by Freud to be a substitute for sex, and I agree with that conclusion. Getting laid in the evening helps distract the mind and uses the body's energy to better purpose than digestion. Without sex, the energy is still there and demands to be used, and many of us choose to use it digesting food. Eating within two or three hours of sleeping forces the energy into digestion and traps it in the guts, particularly in the spleen meridian. During long spells of midnights snacks, the chi energy of the spleen sinks into the sphincter muscles of the anus, prostate, and vaginal walls thereby weakening them. This causes the rectum or vagina to prolapse slightly and then to generate hemorrhoids.

From there, things only get worse.

Late-night snacks would seem to be a silly cause for hemorrhoids, but stopping snacking is an essential part of treatment. If you are subject to the ailment, just try eating a good snack before bedtime about five or ten days in a row and generate yourself a good sore. Then use the treatment.

Adding rye and yellow millet to the diet will help a lot too. These grains strengthen the spleen's energy and keep it up where it belongs.

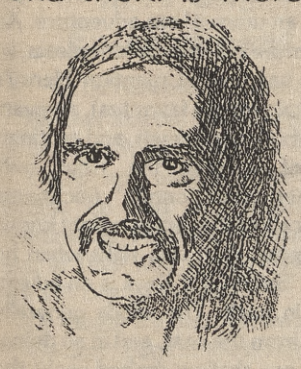
Like all treatments written about in books, occasionally they don't work on someone. This one works almost always; sometimes, however it doesn't. The cause may be deeper than the midnight snack. When there is much dribbling after peeing or leaking of cum after orgasm, along with hemorrhoids, the problem is much deeper and needs the medical artistry of a traditional Chinese medical practitioner.

Hemorrhoids are easily disposed of on most people. Salves only relieve the pain or swelling, and knives only remove the evidence. Rubbing the spot on the side of the foot, moxabustion, or needling change the energy flow, and not eating before going to bed keeps the energy where it belongs.

Getting laid regularly helps, too. Find a friend who has hemorrhoids and help each other get your energy into the right places.

RALPH

and there is more...



by Ralph H. Walker

February and Valentine's Day and hearts and flowers and LOVE! That is what this month is about, isn't it?

Or, perhaps it is a sad reminder of how short a time love seems to last, or how quickly the roses fade and the lovely, lacey valentine becomes ragged and torn. Why is that? Is there no one out there in the vastness of the universe who is truly worthy of my love and trust? Must romance and soft lights and sweet music always turn to ashes and to dust? I know it certainly seemed that way for me, in my life, for many years. And yet, now, in their eighth year of a relationship that we both know is for life, what is different? Why does this one work while none of the others did? What is the magic secret?

When I review that, I have to conclude that the thing that is different this time is I. Yes, it is I who is changed, not the world out there; not the kind of people with which it is populated; not even the profound need to connect, to be in connection with an enduring other. That was all the same, every time I ever fell in love—from Jim, when I was seventeen, to Pat, almost eight years ago.

What did I learn that I can share with you that will make a difference?

Well, first of all, I have moved gradually to the point where it is very clear to me that I am complete in myself, and do not need anyone else to complete who I am. And, I recognize that neither Pat, nor anyone else, can do that for me. I must complete myself. And, that's a life-long, on-going process, and it is totally independent of a partner, or a potential partner. I am my own solution; no one else is! And, you are yours!

Secondly, in my own case, as I look back, I was always expecting someone else to fulfill or complete me; and, therefore, I was hastily ready to fall for anyone who expressed an interest in me. This time, it was the other way round-...for it was clear that there was a quality of love and compassion in Pat that I wanted to have in my life...and I pursued him...for many months, in fact, until we began to know that we shared some very real core of common decency and wholeness, no matter what surface flaws and limitations we each had. The point, though, is that this time was different because I was valuing myself highly enough that I would go for what I knew I wanted instead of taking what the whims of someone else's attraction to me gave me.

It's important to point out that the change that took place for me is not the one necessary for you; what's important if none of your affairs are developing into relationships, is for you to take a look at what repeating pattern of yours is at fault. I could cite various other old patterns of mine that were broken by my connecting with Pat...I'd always wanted someone very butch and masculine. I'd wanted someone with at least a college degree, and I knew I had to have someone who was equally as sexually flexible—as passionate—as I. I just knew that if he did not want to have sex with me every night, he couldn't still love me. And, on and on and on! It was necessary for me to put aside all of these old patterns to be able to make an enduring connection—with Pat—or possibly with almost anyone else! So, look for every one of your "must have" specifications, and admit that each of them serves to eliminate possible partners who could become you lifemate!

But there is a third thing, and that is the guiding principle by which we have made a relationship, and will continue to make a relationship for as long as we both shall live. We have incorporated the definition of love which says: To love someone is to give them the space to be exactly the way they they are...and are not. Each of us loves the other by that definition. It absolutely works; any two people who are willing to put that into practice—not just understand it, but actually begin to live their lives from that definition—will discover that they do, indeed, have a relationship and that they also love each other!

There's a beautiful old Rogers and Hart song that says it quite well; it's been a life-long favorite of mine: "My Funny Valentine." "Don't change a hair for me, Not if you care for me, Stay little Valentine, Stay. Each day is Valentine's Day."

That's it!

Oh, yes, credit where credit is due. That definition comes from Werner Erhard. And, it works! It moves love from the groin to the heart!

Happy Valentine's Day!

BOOKS BOOKS!

THE PEARL BASTARD, by Lillian Halegua. Alyson Publications, Inc., Boston (1985). 137 pp. paperback. $3.95

Reviewed by Jay Harrison

This tiny book, written some twenty-seven years ago, shocks and saddens. Despite its size, it weighs a ton.

It is the story of Francie, product of an Irish Catholic family of god knows how many children—with another always on the way—as she is forcibly jerked from innocence. At fifteen, attempting to go away from the Bronx to work for the summer, she makes the mistake of accepting a ride from a vicious man who rapes her on the beach, near the motel where he's stopped for the night.

Francie is a tomboy. Ironically, neither we nor Francie actually know whether the man knows she's a girl or thinks she's a boy—the attack is brutal in any case, and gender probably would have made little difference. Sadly, despite being from a family that produces babies as regularly as dogs make puppies, Francie has never been told anything about sex. She didn't even understand what it was the man did to her. She can only relate it to another fright she's had:

"It was like the sea knocked me off my feet," she thinks. "It was like the sea that surged and pounded and broke in and out in waves. Pushed down drowning in this sea. Burning, hurting with the power of this sea."

Left on the beach, naked and freezing, Francie screams for death. She is found by a kindly Jewish woman who runs the motel and restaurant, and taken in. Thus begins the second part of Francie's summer which at first seems idyllic, compared to her former life.

But gradually, as the days progress, it becomes evident that Francie is pregnant. The story of her pregnancy, which she endures to its shocking finale by herself, all alone in the motel in the deep of winter, and the fate of her child, makes up the remainder of the book.

In these pages we finally meet Jimmy, Francie's favorite brother (who is, we sense, undergoing the shocks of a Catholic boy discovering he's gay and is terrified). Though he loves Francie, he is no more able to accept what she did—as if she had any choice in the matter—than their parents, ignorant and fecund, too poor to have children but never stopping. Embittered, overwhelmed by the blind stupidity of a church and society so fond of labeling people as bad, he's already a drunk at sixteen.

We have the sense that these are, indeed, doomed children.

Lillian Halegua's real accomplishment lies hidden in her sparse, poetic prose. Through Francie's romantic tomboyish vision, Halegua lets us see a small world, imperfectly formed, misshapen, and sad; but a world we recognize, if we still have any memory of childhood.

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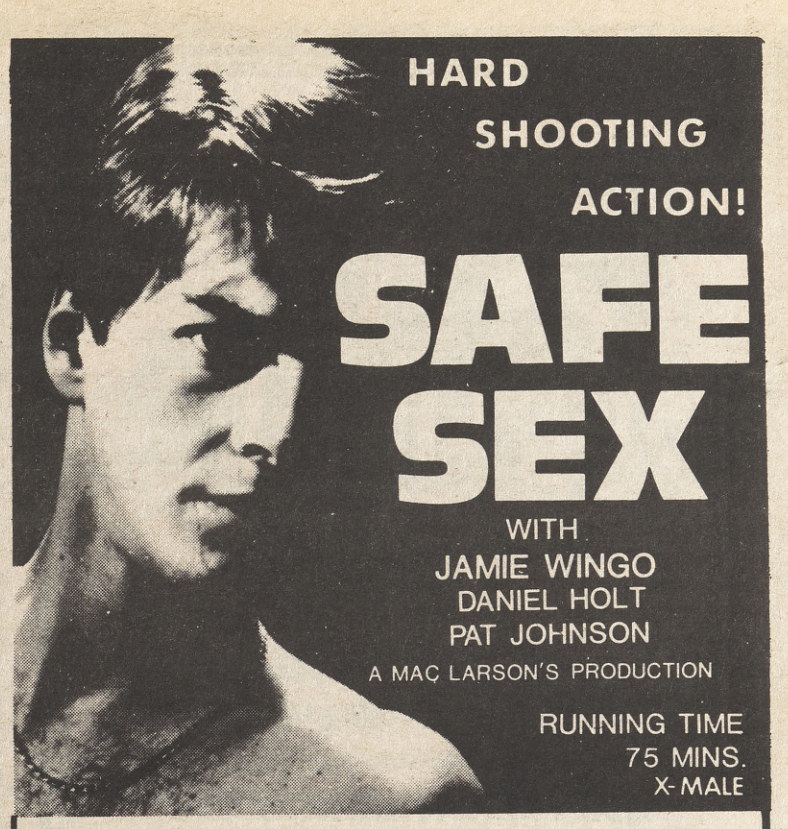

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HOT WAX MUSIC

Megatone AIDS Charity Case Closes

by Robert Timm
and
Jeffrey Wilson

It's been a year since Marty Blecman, co-founder of Megatone Records, was accused of defrauding the Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC), a New York City based AIDS charity. Anonymous sources at the time, which turned out to be disgruntled former employees of the record label, reported their accusations to former editor of San Francisco's **Bay Area Reporter (BAR)** Brian Jones. In a string of **BAR** articles commencing January 24, 1985, focus of the Meg-atone/-Blecman controversy came to the attention of San Francisco assistant District Attorney David Moon who brought charges against Blecman for defrauding the charity.

Six months after the first **BAR** article, Blecman was arrested. Although counter articles in exclusive interviews with former Megatone vice presidents Audrey Joseph and Michael Bailey brought the facts to light, Moon refused to drop the charges, continuing his pursuit against Blecman. Two months following the arrest, Blecman added to his own indebtedness taking out a personal loan as well as selling his car to pay GMHC the total due of $11,155.96, on August 8, 1985.

January 8, 1986, in San Francisco Municipal Court, Judge Alfred G. Chianpelli, reduced the charges against Blecman from grand theft felony to a '532-D' which is receiving money for charitable purposes and negligent non-payment.

After a year of silence with the media, for fear of continually being misquoted, Marty Blecman, in an exclusive interview with **Hot Wax Music** tells of his ordeal including the demise and resurgence of Megatone Records. Blecman sadly described the charges and their outcome as, "According to the court, the way I defrauded the GMHC was I submitted a piece of paper that said I would account to the charity semi-annually. By my lack of accounting to them, I broke that promise; so I broke whatever that law would be (532-D). It's a technicality, but I didn't have the money to pay them. It wasn't willful; but the fact is, I didn't pay them on time. So, I say, 'the only thing I'm guilty of is not paying GMHC on time'."

The accounting described by Blecman refers to the promise to pay 100% of the proceeds from Megatone's 12-inch dance single MT-103 "Megamedley." The record and its proceeds were a memorial to Blecman's partner and co-founder of the label, the late Patrick Cowley, who was one of the first publicized tragedies of the AIDS epidemic. Cowley passed away November 12, 1982; he was 32 years old. Hence, the **Patrick Cowley Memorial Foundation** was established shortly thereafter with all donations at that time going into San Francisco's Kaposi Sarcoma Foundation. When Megatone's former vice president in charge of the project, Audrey Joseph, could not receive an accounting on the funds donated to the KS Foundation, Megatone changed the memorial to the **Patrick Cowley AIDS Fund** and had all future donations presented to the GMHC instead.

The record was released in April 1983, but it was not a good year for dance music. By the end of 1983, AIDS was becoming known as an epidemic. Fewer people were going out to dance bars and establishments where disco was playing. Megatone's record sales fell. Blecman knew his company was in trouble.

By January 1984, Blecman remembers, "The company was taking a very fast nose dive. Albums weren't selling, distributors and record stores returned records in large numbers. The first quarter of 1984 saw Megatone's biggest returns ever! Megatone was in a cash-flow crisis." Blecman was having serious problems paying his bills and meeting financial commitments. Blecman admits that he should have talked to GMHC to let them know Megatone was in financial trouble in order to work out an alternate method of payment. "It's not that we singled out anyone for lack of payment. You have to pay your bills and employees to keep the door open," explained Blecman.

Reasons geared to Megatone's dismal finances at the time were pinned to the lack of enthusiasm among distributors and buyers of the label's newest artist, a hopeful Bill Preston. Advance speculative orders for approximately $50,000 were taken on the new Preston project, but the album was a disaster. The public didn't buy Preston and the critics panned him. Orders Blecman depended on to save his company were substantially reduced and he was forced to lay off two of his three employees—Dick Boniuto and Steve Hassameier.

Hassameier, who has since died of AIDS, was in charge of foreign distribution and licensing for Megatone. Boniuto worked initially as a volunteer office assistant and then became salaried. According to Blecman, after the layoffs, Boniuto went to him and demanded $500 for the volunteer work he did. Blecman angrily states, "Boniuto tried to blackmail me before he ever went to BAR or the DA. Dick decided he wanted to be paid $500 for the volunteer work or he'd go to the paper. Unbeknownst to him, my lover was standing in the other room when Dick threatened me. Dick talked Steve Hassameier into believing I was a crook, then he talked Brian Jones of BAR into believing I was a crook, and then they talked the DA into believing I was a crook."

With files that Blecman contends were stolen from the premises of Megatone, Boniuto became one of the 'unknown' sources for the then-editor Brian Jones' expose on charity fraud. Says Blecman, "When Dick came to work for us, he took over Audrey Joseph's desk. Audrey headed the MT-103 Megamedley project and the files that were in her desk—Dick took them! Dick contends he never took the files, that Steve Hassameier had them because Steve did all the accounting for royalties. Steve never did accounting for royalties! Bill Martin, our CPA, had all those papers."

Without proper and complete information, figures were misunderstood and misrepresented in print. Unfortunately, Jones never went to Blecman to get his side of the story in time for the printing of the first **BAR** article regarding Megatone's alleged fraud. Blecman was very hurt and upset by **BAR**'s portrayal of him and his company. "The **BAR** was very nasty. They had my quotes wrong. They had business accounting procedures wrong. Their quotes from 'anonymous' sources were out-and-out lies! I never said the things in the context they printed. Those were all horrible lies, innuendos, and very misleading. Brian Jones threatened me verbally not to try and counter any of the stuff they were saying."

When Brian Jones was asked to comment, he declined any response beyond those articles he published in **BAR** and the court documents of the Megatone case.

The final result of the **BAR** articles coupled with the assistant DA's investigation was Blecman's arrest. In coldness Blecman recounts the events of a day he will never forget. "The DA was putting on a good show because they could have arranged with my lawyers to have me arrested and arraigned," he began. "Instead, they chose to have the police swoop down on me at eight in the morning with their guns drawn as I'm standing in the bathroom naked...like I was a murderer. It was humiliating. It seemd odd that the DA had me arrested when I was making payments to GMHC. I'm making restitution and they decide to wait until Gay Day week to have me arrested. I think it was a ploy for publicity. Although I can't prove this, it must have made great press for the DA's office, and they do need the gay vote in this town to get elected." By the end of the day, Blecman was freed on his own recognizance. The major newspapers and other local media were broadcasting the news of Blecman's arrest.

That was June 1985. This month, Blecman's sentence was dismissed with the payment of a $4000 fine over three years to San Francisco's Shanti Project. Marty Blecman is going on with his life. As he says, "I can't fight it any more. Either I took this plea or fight it through a jury trial. I have no money in the bank. I've got a company to run. My life is a mess. I have high blood pressure. My doctor told me it was a sane decision to go on with my life. Economically, it's the only thing I can do; I have to go on with my life. All my artists stood behind me. We're rebuilding Megatone. The new year starts now."

"IMPRESSIONS"

That Different Kind of Cruising

by Nevada

"Cruising." Boy, have we used that word enough. It always had a different meaning, until we met Captain Ron and First Mate Henry of Sailorman Charters. Those two big, hunky, humpy sailors have added a whole new meaning to the word. They took us out cruising onto the blue and turquoise waters surrounding the Florida Keys, away from all the hustle, bustle, regulations, and taboos that come with the reality of big-city life.

Ron and Henry have been in the sailing business for some time and feel the freedom of not living in the big city has many personal rewards. They cater to couples, friends, and individuals who have the fantasy to feel out the call of the wild, especially an unusual sea adventure. An adventure full of excellent meals, an open bar (not to mention Henry's tropical teatime favorites), an evening ashore (if desired), and an itinerary of cruising the Keys only another good "conch" (nickname for locals of the region) might know.

Captain Ron was right when he said, "Sailing the Keys is an adventure in itself. The winds generally blow from the east, and in so doing, allow our shallow-drafted yacht the excitement of cruising both sides of the islands." Going through Florida Bay was magnificent...the colors, the small islands. We found it difficult to enjoy Henry's tropical teatime favorites since our eyes were constantly chasing flocks of flamingos or glued to the bay bottom. And our eyes never stopped bulging at those gorgeous, hunky fishermen as they passed by, waving their hellos...we wish they'd do that in the city!

Had time allowed, we would have sailed to and through the Everglades National Park in Flamingo, but we were "cruising" to Key West,

Continued pg. eleven.

and with so many places to go, that stop would have to come at another time. We made one stop t the Caribbean Club, where much of that "oldie" ***Key Largo*** was shot, to enjoy a few shots ourselves. Then, back to the boat for one of Henry's joyous meals, and the full moon's glow over the water. As the days passed, so did Card, Barnes, Blackwater, and Buttonwood Sounds. A beautiful day exploring Lignamvitae Key, a picnic on Indian Key, sailing under the famous Seven Mile Bridge, snorkeling the majestic reefs at Looe Key, having lunch under the palms surrounding the set for the movie PT 109 at Newfound Harbor; and before we knew it, we were docking in Key West.

For our time in Key West, Sailorman Charters graciously booked us into one of the local and colorful guesthouses. We will admit that we did miss the yacht, but it was nice to have a really big bunk and an enormous "head," along with some hearty, shoreside fun, before returning to sea and the all-too-soon return to Miami.

Going northward up Hawks Channel through the Keys was just as exciting as "going down" the keys. Many a strong gust of wind sent us slicing through those emerald waters over and through John Pennekamp's famous reef...it was so au-senusal! Before we knew it, our last sunset together with Ron and Henry was unfolding, and along with it much sadness. All too quickly we found our two weeks of cruising had slipped away, and that au-natural tan we were showing would too soon be covered by the seat of a chair. This had been a beautiful time together, and we all felt as though good friends were to be left behind.

Before we left, though, Captain Ron inspired another "cruise" with sea stories about the beauty of the southeast Bahama Islands. He talked for hours about those small cays and places to explore that could truly only be seen by cruising on a small yacht. Miles of deserted, white, sandy beaches, unlimited shallow, gorgeous reefs to snorkel or dive. Nowhere else in the West Indies could cruising be better.

So here we go again, sailing with Sailorman Charters! Why don't you join us? For information, contact: Sailorman Charters, Inc., Box 331244, Coconut Grove, FL 33133; telephone (305) 634-2113.

Senior Action In A Gay Environment

by G. Harwood & B. Mero

We met and fell in love when one of us was 19, the other 21.

That's not unusual. But some people do find our relationship remarkable. Maybe it's because we met in 1929; and 55 years later, we are still deeply in love.

Or maybe it's because we're gay.

We don't think of our relationship as anything extraordinary. It is wonderful, and each day we thank God for it. But, like any other relationship, it is the product of hard work, compromise, forgiveness, and love.

We want to tell you about something that is quite remarkable. It's an organization called Senior Action in a Gay Environment, better known as SAGE, an organization of men and women, straight and gay, working to help meet the special challenges faced by older gay men and women.

SAGE has made an enormous difference in our lives. We're 74 and 76 years old now. A few years ago, we had practically become hermits, due to the inroads of death and the relocation of nearly all of our friends.

SAGE changed all that.

But before you can understand how important SAGE is to us, perhaps we need to tell you something about our lives together. We'll try to compress 55 years into just a few paragraphs.

Although we had been introduced to each other in 1929, our relationship didn't begin to blossom until the next year. And we owe it to the intervention of gay oppression.

You see, one of us (Gean) was roommates with another gay man. One day this young fellow was entrapped by a vice squad detective for "moral indecency." The police contacted the landlord, and despite a valid lease, Gean and his roommate were thrown out of their apartment.

At the same time, Bruhs was looking for a new place to live, and the two of us joined forces to share the rent. We found a studio on East 38th Street, here in New York. It was small, only big enough for the two of us and Gean's prized possession—a little Fisher baby grand piano—which was carried up four flights of stairs!

Bruhs was working in advertising and Gean was at Paramount Pictures, handling transportation for the stars and the executives. Most of the work was petty and boring, but Gean did get to meet some wonderfully glamorous people, including Marlene Dietrich, Gary Cooper, Claudette Colbert, the Marx Brothers, Gloria Swanson, and Gean's favorite, Helen Hayes.

As the Depression worsened, Bruhs lost his job. All our economizing couldn't stretch Gean's salary enough to cover expenses for two—even though rent was just $35 per month and a complete dinner was available as the "Little Tavern" on West 47th Street for 75 cents!

One day, entirely by chance, Bruhs met Irma Duncan, an adopted daughter of Isadora Duncan. It was a meeting that changed our lives, for she persuaded Bruhs to audition for her. Although Bruhs had never danced before, he took to it immediately. Before long Bruhs was dancing with Ruth St. Denis' ballet company.

These were exciting times for Bruhs and trying ones for Gean. Our relationship was tested in a new way. But our commitment to each other prevailed. In fact, we grew even closer to each other when, in 1939, we began to work together.

Gean had always loved to play the piano, so it was natural that he should become Bruhs' accompanist. Together, we began to teach dance classes in a converted carriage house on West 10th Street. It was both our home and our studio.

It was difficult, with Bruhs dancing and teaching while Gean worked 9 to 5 at Paramount and then rushed home to accompany Bruhs. But these few years, just before World War II, stand out in our memory as "the best of times." We were together, we had the huge studio space, and we had a wonderful circle of friends.

Most of our friends were gay men and women, and they often congregated at our studio-home. Saturday night parties became a regular feature, with the two of us playing host. After a while our friends felt guilty about imposing on us, so they hit upon the idea of forming a club, which we soon called The Nucleus Club.

To our knowledge, The Necleus Club was the only organization of its time that had equal numbers of gay men and women. Of course, with so many gay people congregating in our home each Saturday night, we were fearful of exposure and harassment. So the club adopted some rules.

For instance, as they left, each gay man would pair with a gay woman and go strolling out arm in arm. That way our gatherings looked like any heterosexual party.

Then came the 50s and the McCarthy period. Gay men and women were hounded from the military, the State Department, and many professions. Gay bars were raided and individual gays were harassed with greater frequency and greater violence than ever before.

We felt increasingly alone and increasingly frightened. We were cautious about making new friendships with other gays, for fear of "guilt by association."

When the gay liberation movement dawned, we cheered; but it was cheering from the sidelines. All those proud gay activists seemed so young!

Then one day in June of 1982, a friend called. He said, "I know you two have been together for 50 years. You deserve a celebration. There's an organization called SAGE, and they've arranged an anniversary party in your honor." He hung up before we could tell him we had already celebrated our 50th anniversary—two years earlier!

A few days later, SAGE's Executive Director, Ken Dawson, arrived at our apartment with a bouquet of roses. He helped us into a cab, and within minutes we were at a SAGE party with over 200 gay men and women of all ages.

We were overwhelmed with the expression of warmth and affection from these people who—minutes ago—were strangers. But not all were strangers. Two women came up to hug us, tears streaming from their eyes, as they whispered their names and told us, "We used to belong to The Nucleus Club."

That single beautiful day at SAGE has grown into a tapestry of events and friendships and opportunities that have changed our lives.

Because of SAGE, we are no longer alone, no longer isolated. It's no longer just the two of us! We attend monthly SAGE socials, brunches, and the educational forums. Some afternoons we stop by the SAGE Drop-in Center. We go to the theater with SAGE and enjoy the SAGE bus trips. We have made scores of new friends, lesbians and gay men, some as young as 20, others older than we are.

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SAGE would not exist if people like you, gay or straight, man or woman, did not care deeply about the role SAGE fulfills in our community.

Do you see why SAGE is so important to us and why we care so deeply about it? That is why we have shared a part of our lives with you in this way. We want you to care about SAGE as much as we do.

Please help us support SAGE by contributing as generously as you can. SAGE has helped so many older gay people, but there are so many more out there, still to be reached. With your help, SAGE can reach them.

For more information about SAGE, contact SAGE 208 West 13th Street, New York, NY 10011; telephone (212) 741-2247.

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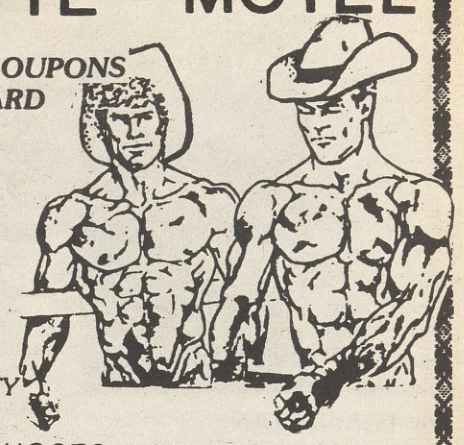

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GETTIN THERE

by TOM DOLAN

Dingdong's Idyll

"Dingdong," crooned Cupcake in his most seductive manner, "we're dying to hear about your 'killer orgasm!'

"Which one?" replied Dingdong, feigning round-eyed innocence.

"*Which one!*" gasped Cupcake. "How many have you had since we last saw you?"

"Seventeen in as many days," replied Dingdong with a sly smile that broke into a toothy grin.

"That's what happens," explained the Ding, "when you meet Mr. Right."

"You mean," I said, "after all these years of bopping around, you've finally settled down?"

"It's the only sensible thing to do," said the suddenly sober twinkie, "*and* it's *politically correct*!"

"*Politically correct?*" queried Cupcake with wide-eyed bewilderment. "And what exactly does that mean?"

Dingdong gave us his blank look, so I explained: "It means we can only survive as people, as a subculture, if we behave in certain ways."

"Like going back in the closet?" asked the hapless Cupake.

"It's more like aiming at a healthy lifestyle. It's working harder than ever on issues like intimacy and relationship," I said.

"I see," blinked Cupcake, who was desperate to hear all about the 'killer' orgasm. (Or am I projecting?)

"How can I put it delicately?" I asked Cupcake in a stage whisper, "and still get all the dirt?"

"Ask him if they have *safe sex*," said Cupcake *sotto voce*.

"We'll get to that later," I hissed back.

"What's his name, Dingdong?" I asked.

"Bard," breathed Dingdong, as if he were unveiling a beautiful statue.

"That's a *lovely* name!" I said, telling Dingdong pretty much what he wanted to hear.

"Do you really think so?" sighed our enraptured friend.

Ignoring what I took to be a rhetorical question, I droned on: "Relationships can't be forced, m'boy, but sometimes all it takes is a willingness, an openness, a vulnerability... "Dammit, Uncle Tom," interrupted Cupcake, "I'm dying of boredom! I've either got to turn on the tube or hear about Dingdong's orgasm. Which is it?"

"Very well, then," I said, "Dingdong, do you and this Bard person practice *safe sex*?"

"We practice every chance we get, Uncle Tom," replied the ever-horny Ding.

At this point, Cupcake took over: "Dingdong," he said, "what the hell is a 'killer' orgasm?"

"In the poetry of Elizabethan England," I interjected, "to *come* and to *die* were sometimes synonymous. There *is* a similarity...."

"Who cares!" screeched Cupcake. "I want to hear Dingdong's story, and I want to hear it now!"

"It was *great*!" said the radiant twinkie. "It was a 'killer' because I hadn't been with a man in that special way for seven months."

"You were with the Mission," said Cupcake as if to remind him.

"That's right. And to make matters worse, the whole time I was trying to go straight."

"It was just a phase you were going through," offered Cupcake.

"Evidently," acknowledged Dingdong. "Anyway, when Bard came along, I was ready for him."

"I must say, I'm happy for you, Dingdong," I said. "I won't worry about you nearly as much knowing you have settled into an idyllic relationship."

"What's *idyllic*?" asked the limerent one.

"Yeah, what's *idyllic*?" echoed Cupcake.

"*Idyllic* means things could be a whole lot worse," I evaded.

"Things can *always* get worse," contributed Cupcake. Losing interest in the conversation, he retreated to the tube, simultaneously twirling the dial and playing with the little pigtail some stylist had fashioned at the nape of his neck.

"I guess life with Bard *is* idyllic, Uncle Tom," said the Ding, "but just between the two of us, some days I don't know how it could be worse."

"You guys seem to have an exemplary sex life, m'boy," I said.

"We do," said the Ding, "but sex isn't everything.

"Would you mind repeating that?" I said. "I think my ears are playing tricks on me."

"You heard me right," said the crestfallen twinkie.

"You have changed, m'boy," I marveled. "What then is wrong with your otherwise idyllic relationship?"

"For one thing," said Ding, "I feel like I'm doing all the work. Bard says I'm a much better cook than he is, so I should do all the cooking. He says I should do the cleaning and the washing and the ironing, too, for the same reason. If I ask him to take out the garbage, he says 'You do it so much better than I ever could,' which is kinda flattering, but...."

"You feel he's taking advantage of your generous nature?" I said.

"I do wonder. I know I'm not supposed to feel this way. We're in love and all that. I *should* be happy—shouldn't I?"

"That's right, Dingdong. You were engineered for happiness. If something isn't right, it's up to you to change it."

"I get up at five and go to work at my mom's restaurant, but Bard sleeps till noon. He says he's looking for work, but he never even picks up the classifieds."

"Maybe he looks for work while you're at the restaurant," I offered. "Have you ever asked him?"

"He won't talk about it. There's a lot of things he won't talk about. Like when he's going to cough up his share of the rent. When I mention money, he gets mad," said the Ding.

"If anything is gonna change, Dingdong, it's up to you! It's entirely up to you," I said.

"I could let him down gradually," said the sorrowful twinkie.

"If you had to lose an arm, Dingdong," I asked, "would you rather have it whittled away inch by inch or have it whacked off—fast?"

"I know what I have to do," he said, "but I'm so embarrassed. It's all my fault! How did I ever get into this mess?"

"At one time or another," I said, "we all do it. To tell the truth, m'boy, I've done it more than once. And it's been done to me—more than once."

"I wish Bard would do it to me," sniffed Dingdong. "I wish Bard would break it off. It wouldn't hurt as much."

"If life were any more idyllic than it is," lamented a doleful Cupcake, "I don't know *how* we'd survive!"

LOS ANGELES

PARENTS FLAG/LA will have a 10th Birthday Celebration Banquet on February 15 at the Starlight Room of the Sheraton Miramar Hotel in Santa Monica. The theme of the event will be A LOVE AFFAIR, in recognition of the love affair that PARENTS FLAG/LA has had with the lesbian and gay community for the past ten years. During those years, countless numbers of parents and their gay children have been reunited, through parent peer counseling, rap-discussion groups, and educational materials.

"Perfect Ten" awards, in honor of the decade, will be given to two remarkable women, syndicated columnist Abigail Van Buren (Dear Abby), and to Dr. Evelyn Hooker, a psychologist. Community Awards will be presented to Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, and to Morris Kight, and to Christopher Street West Association. Two television dramas, "An Early Frost" (NBC) and "Consenting Adult" (ABC) will receive the group's Oscar Wilde award.

Entertainment will be provided by the Los Angeles Women's Chorus and the Great American Yankee Freedom Band. There will be dancing until midnight to the music of the forties and the fifties by Ray Lyon's Dixie Drivers.

Individual tickets to the Dinner-Dance are $50. Tables for ten are $500. For further information and reservations, call (213) 472-8952.

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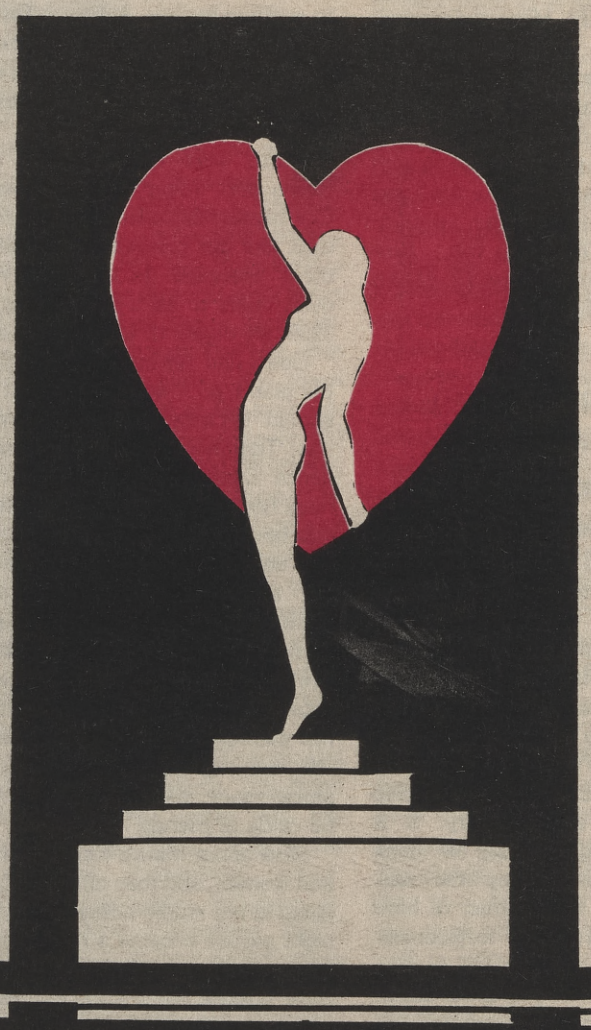

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Shannon and the staff from ONCE IN A BLUE MOON would like to thank EVERYONE for their support in our first big year.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CHILD ASSAULT Prevention Program will offer daytime training beginning November 19, 1985, for volunteers who want to work with children in pre-school through high school. Concerned, caring individuals are encouraged to participate. Contact The Child Assault Prevention Program at (916) 447-3223.

TALENT NEEDED for 2nd annual 'DEBUT'S'Talent Showcase to be in March 1986. For more info call Kevin or Ed at (916) 443-6358. Leave name and phone number. Must be 18.

WRESTLING CLUB to be organized. Persons with an interest in wrestling and who may wish to participate in the Gay Games in August, should contact Steve at the Mercantile or call Dan C. at (916) 448-1916 for more information.

BALL CLUB A newsletter and correspondence club for men who have 'em and men who want 'em. For information, send self-addressed stamped envelope to: BC, PO Box 1501, Pomona, CA 91769.

THE SACRAMENTO Rape Crisis Center will have training for male and female volunteers who want to aid victims of sexual assault and their significant others. Crisis intervention work provides challenges, satisfaction and opportunities for personal growth. Concerned, caring individuals are needed and encouraged to participate. For more information, contact The Sacramento Rape Crisis Center, 2224 J St., Sacramento, CA 95816, telephone (916) 447-3223.

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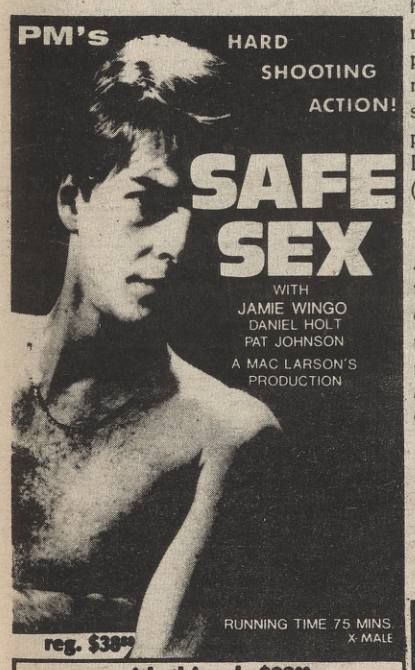

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ALL AMERICAN MAN (on a slightly smaller scale) is sincere, down to earth, and loyal. Seeks masculine, non-promiscuous, passionate GWM 35-45 with same qualities who's interested in dating, poss monogamous relationship. Write The Patlar (PL-114), PO Box 22402, Sacto, CA 95822.

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Bi/M 36 5-10 165 good body considered very handsome masc. Successful exec. Want to meet similar 25 to 40 w/positive attitude for fun or solid relationship. Send pic & pho no. No fems, fats, losers. PO Box 704 Orangevale, CA 95662.

ROMANTIC, successful Scorpio 6' 2", 195 w/blond hair, blue eyes in 40s, looking for rare 6' tall guy w/dark hair, slant eyes, fresh hot butt. Must be interested in open, honest relationship. Write with picture to: C.R., PO Box 816, Larkspur, CA 94939.

GWM 27, 5' 10", 150. Looking for G/W/M, 21-35 for friend, possible lover in Marysville, Yuba City area. Please no fats, fems or blacks. Send letter of interest with photo to Box Holder, PO Box 2586 Marysville CA 95901.

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LOOKING FOR FRIENDSHIP: A am a GWM, early 40s, trim, 5'10" who wants to meet a sincere person to late 30s for friendship. I am looing for someone not wrapped up in himself. If you're looing for the same, please write and tell me about yourself. This is not a sex ad. Write Paul, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95926.

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FEMALE DESIRES TO MEET, same 40 and over in Yuba-Sutter Counties & vicinity. Need to be discreet. Write F.D.T.M., PL-104, c/o THE PATLAR, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

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GAY COUPLE, early 30's, wishes to meet other gay couples for occasional camping, bicyclying or dinner out. Write: Couple, PL-108, c/o THE PATLAR, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

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BI PEOPLE: Dom F & Sub M seek fun w/same Box 6694 Reno, NV 89513.

LOVIN warm affectionate bi M, 36, told vry handsom, Latin and French, vry good shape. Exec. seeks to meet other bi or gay female or male. Prefer same age or older. I'm new to the area and wish for open new friends. I'm very sincere and also open. Let's chat and be friends. I'm Jon 916-443-4542 or write: PL-116, c/o THE PATLAR, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA.

PHONE BUDDIES Directory. Send SASE for free info. Directory 583 Grove SF CA 94102 PHALLIC WORSHIP as serious religion. Send $2 for sample newsletter. St. Priapus Church 583 Grove SF CA 94102, or call (415) 431-8748 for taped info.

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GWM COUPLE, early 20s, seeking either men/couples under 30 for fun, friendship, travel & ? Write to: D & P, c/o Patlar, PL-117, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

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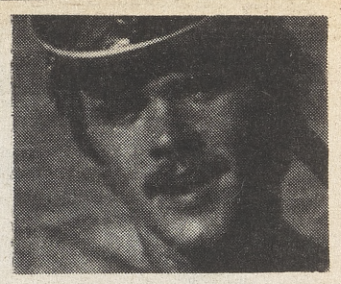
GWM 34 6' 1" looking to meet same 25-35, write to PO Box 5704, Phoenix, AZ 85010 (send photo with what you have to offer).



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DAD NEEDS SON; gd lkng 60, 6' 200 lbs artist/wrtr very affect. pic to Bx 400 Vacaville, CA 95696

GM 22 5-8 150 looking for guy 18-30 for fun, friend &? Call (916) 444-3197. Prefer trim white and oriental men.

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B/WM 36 slm attrac prof seek oriental b/ males 20-35 for friendship Sacramento write Mike, PL-101, Patlar PO Box 22402 Sacto, CA 95822.

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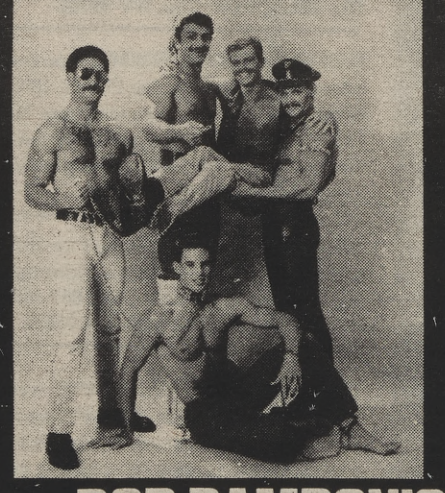

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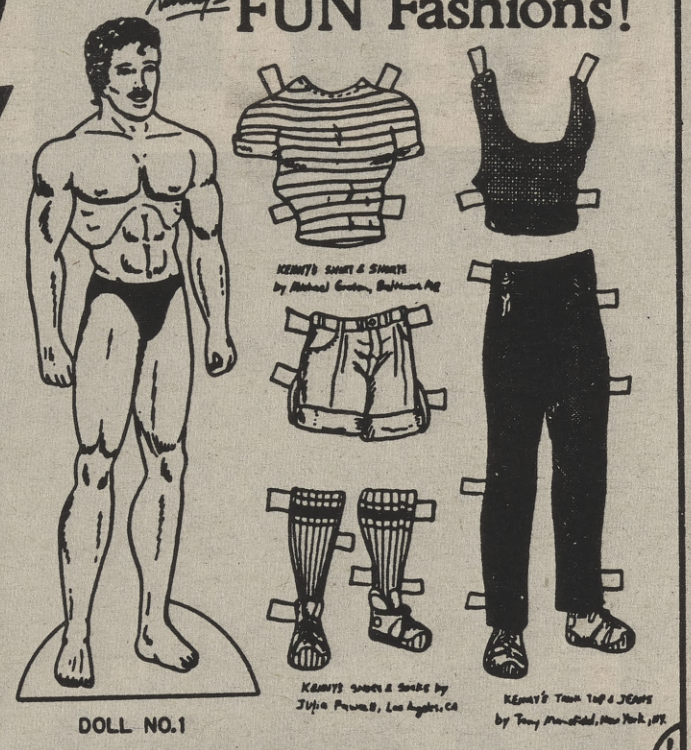
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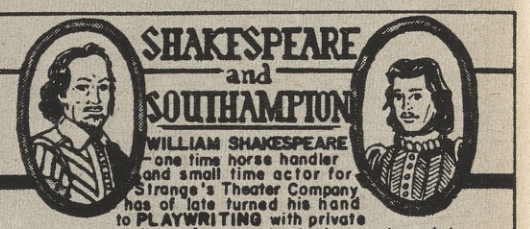

SHAKESPEARE and SOUTHAMPTON

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE —one time horse handler and small time actor for Strange's Theater Company has of late turned his hand to **PLAYWRITING** with private showings of some short pieces at social weekends at noble households.

It is at one of these that it is said our Will first met the Right Honourable Henry Wriothesly, Earl of Southampton — then but 20. For him he wrote **"VENUS and ADONIS"** the story of a beautiful youth who dares to spurn the Godess of Beauty herself.

SOUTHAMPTON had recently had his manhood painfully put into question by his resistance to an arranged marriage and found this piece suitably amusing. Pleased and Grateful, the young Earl extended his patronage to Shakespeare even to giving leave for Will to move into his household.

Shakespeare's feelings for this dashing youth are recorded in many of his **SONNETS** and through the troubled times to come they were to color all his works.

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DID YOU KNOW, THAT "GAY PRIDE" STARTED AT LEAST A THOUSAND YEARS BEFORE CHRIST???
PLATO NEVER HAD IT SO GOOD
NO!
I THOUGHT IT STARTED WITH THE STONEWALL RIOTS!!
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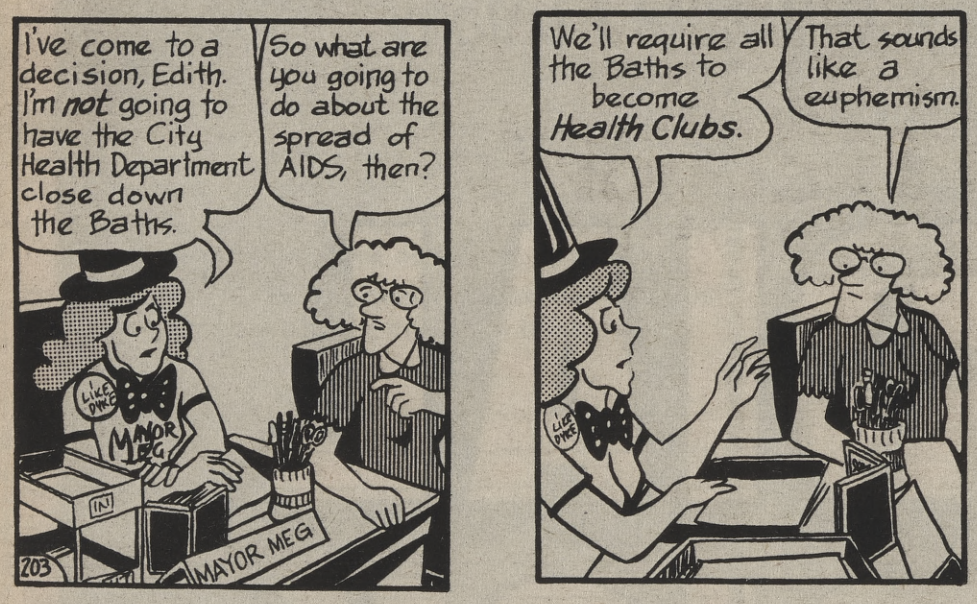
MURPHY'S MANOR

by Kurt Erichsen


I've come to a decision, Edith. I'm not going to have the City Health Department close down the Baths.
So what are you going to do about the spread of AIDS, then?
We'll require all the Baths to become Health Clubs.
That sounds like a euphemism.
No. We can't afford euphemisms. Before sex, each applicant must complete a Fitness Decathlon.
It includes 100 chin-ups, 250 push-ups, 1000 sit-ups, and running ten miles in less than 60 minutes.
After that, he won't have the energy to perform unsafe sex.
LIKE DYKE
MAYOR MEG
IN
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JACQUES AND STRAP

By Bob Sinclair

OH OH. I SEE 'ZIG-ZAG' IS BACK IN TOWN...
FU
WOW. HE'S ALWAYS SO HIGH!
I KNOW. WHEN HE SEZ HI, MAN, HE DOESN'T MEAN HELLO.
SIN
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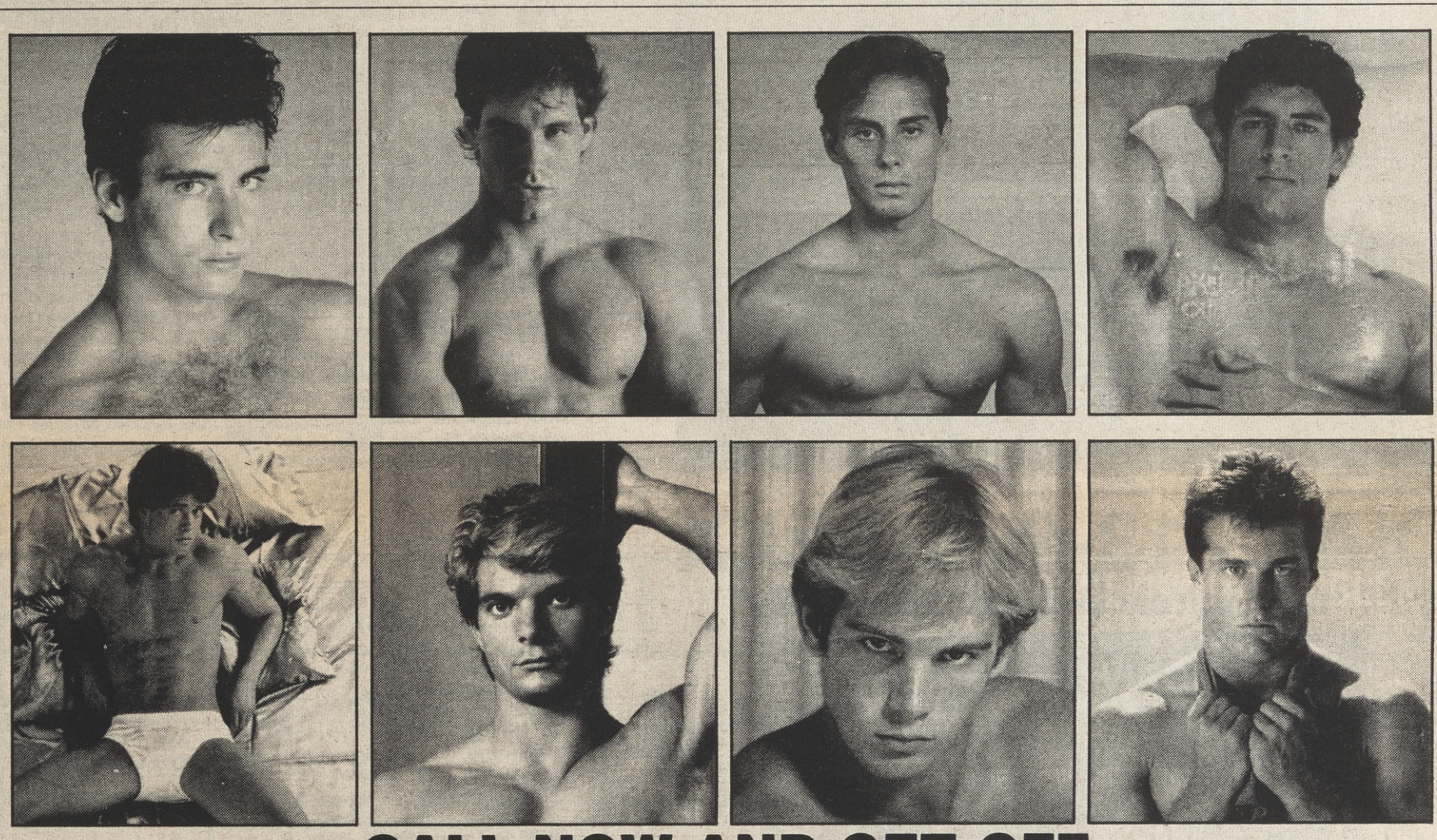

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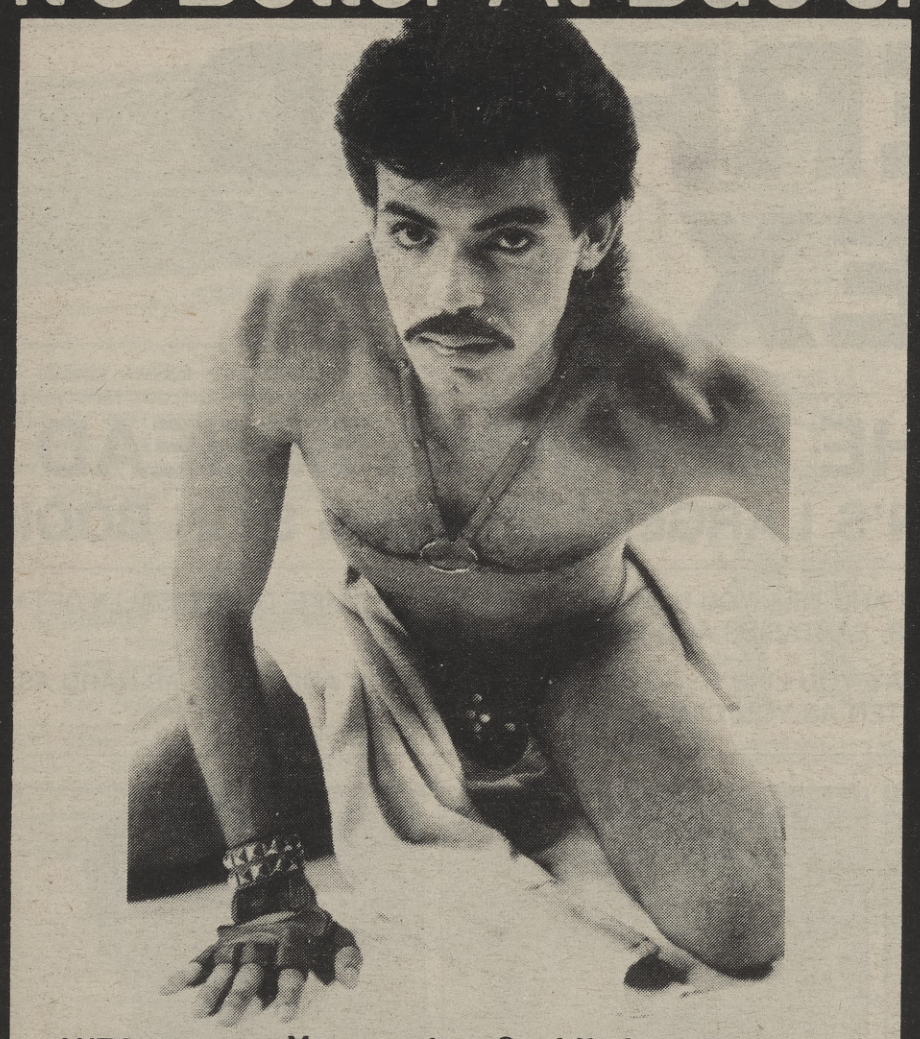

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RELATIONSHIPS

Space in the Crossroads Meeting Place is reserved for persons who want to meet others in order to develop a relationship. The cost is $5.00 each month a message appears. (Not to exceed 100 words.) Send the message and fee to: Crossroads Meeting Place, c/o the Patlar, PO Box 22402 Sacramento, CA 95822.

SEEKING CAREER POSITION
I've been to love's school of hard knocks, got my diploma, and now would like to apply my education to a career position of caring. Majored in sincerity, with minors in honesty and TLC. GWM, 28, brown hair & eyes, 5'-10", 160 lbs, attractive (it's been said!). I'm looking for a person offering a position with affection, understanding, and mutual benefits. I'm HTLV3 Negative and you must be, too. Prefer to join stable, firm company with 25-35 years of experience in the field of life. If you're a "going somewhere" REAL person, send application letter (photo would be nice) to "CAREER OFFER", PO Box 19611, Sacramento, CA 95819-0611.

BI/ORIENTAL M early 20s, wants relationship with honest, sincere, loving, romantic, caring, non-smoker, non-druggie, healthy, slim, non-black guy under 35. I like top and bottom sex and want more than one-time sexual contact. If you're romantic and caring, make contact now! Call after 5 PM at (916) 444-3197 H.

BI/WM 40 plus/165/5'-11", brn hr/blue eyes, enjoys hunting, fishing, camping & motorcycle riding, looking for masculine companion, 35-45, who enjoys the same, for lasting relationship. Not into the bar scene and enjoy quiet evenings at home. (916) 988-1764.

VERY TOGETHER trim (42) w/m with hazel eyes brown hair moustache is looking for a relationship made by The Gods. The God Akal for he is timeless or Amor for he is love. But because they are out of town, we will have to go this alone. I'd like to know and appreciate someone whose act is together, who is serious about wanting one man. So I wonder where you are and I wonder what you do. Are you somewhere feeling lonely or is someone loving you? Regards, J.D. (702) 677-0664, 11001 Zeolite Dr., Reno, NV 89506.

GWM, Prof, masc., 40, 6'1", 180 lbs., lt. brn hair/eyes, new to Sacto. After two (6 years ea.) loves, I am not naive but not cynical enough to give up on finding one. I enjoy quiet times, new ideas, KXPR and KVIE, few but close friends, and quality more than quantity. I consider lovemaking a very important means of communication. I value honesty, respect and goodness of soul above status. I am well endowed and sexually versatile. Tho not required, prefer dark chunky, hairy sorts. If interested, let's talk. Howard (916) 725-5927.

YOU!
How about a date? Dinner? Or a movie? Or a even maybe picnic? Or maybe your place? Or mine? YOU name it. My ulterior motive? YOU! Without YOU, life is limited. With YOU, anything is possible. I am GWM, professional, working and in excellent health. I am probably old enough to be your father or your brother, but I wish to be neither. I prefer to be your friend, hoping in time to be your mate. Am a non-smoker, non-drug user. Write PL 123, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

GWM 45, business professional desires to meet similar for friendship and possible relationship. Write 1008 10th St., Box 451, Sacramento, CA 95814. Give details.

B/WM 55/180 desires meet yngr WM for perm rel. Have BA, ex-GI. Open except no beards, no pills. Am quiet person. Drink wine. Leigh 912 Cummins Wy, Broderick, CA 95605/Ph. 372-0929.

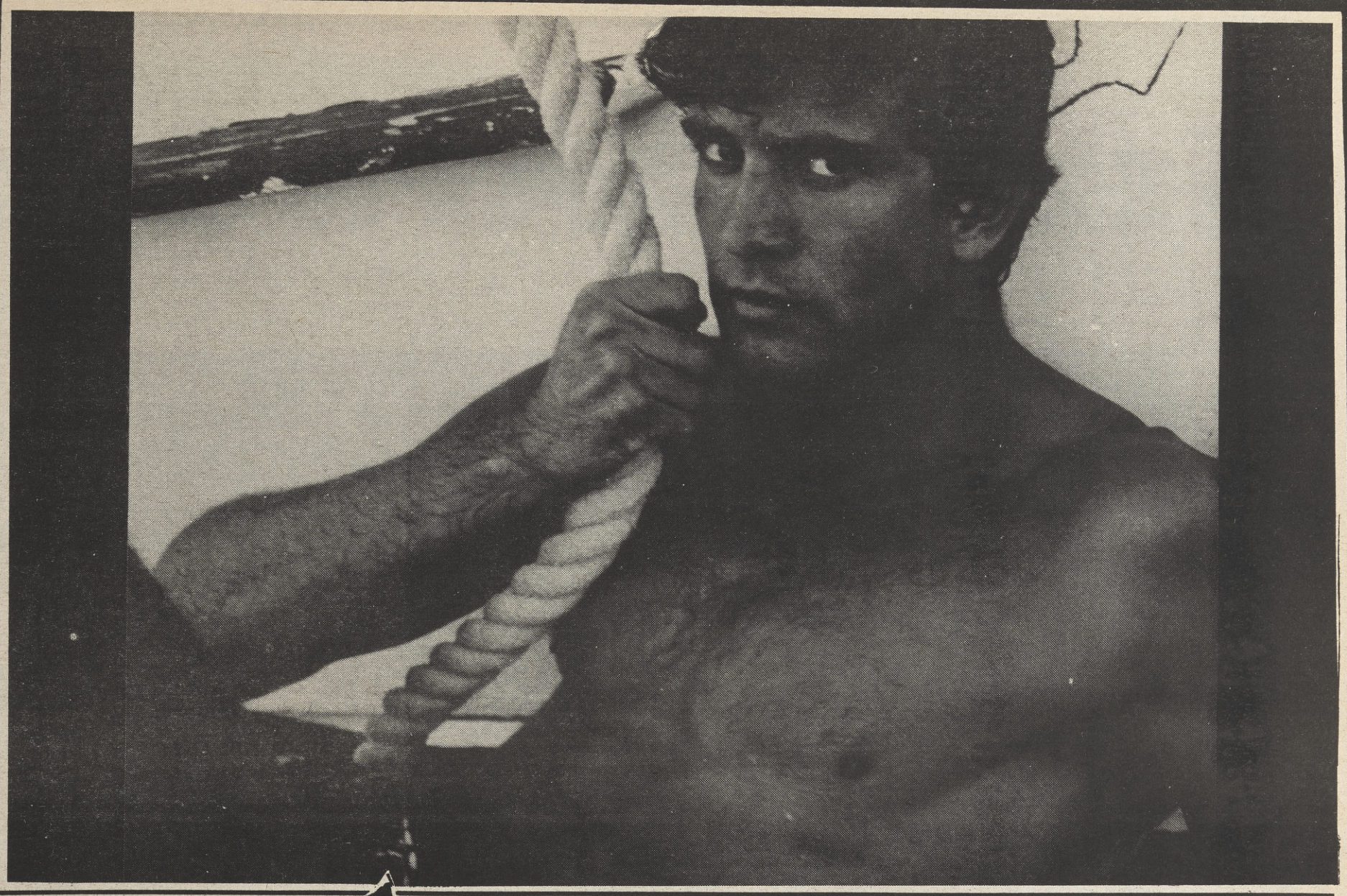
HOT MAN: handsome, hunky, curly redhead, artist-professional seeks dynamic man with a dream for relationship combining love, best friendship, humor, goals, safe balling, growth. I'm young 34, hazel eyes, masculine, 5'6", 135, Leo (Sagittarius Rising, Moon in Aquarius). Am warm, friendly, loving, generous, social, detached, creative, intellectual, sexual, healthy, no smoke/-drink. Prefer GWM 25-35, handsome, masculine, athletic, well built, neat appearance; smart, motivated, positive, independent, stable; sexual (a/p condomed greek, some safe kink); frequents Bay Area. I'm in Oakland, frequent Sac area. Let's share feelings, respect, care, understanding, trust, romance; home cooking, music, films, museums; weekends exploring/nude swimming/sunning in the mountains. Reply with photo (will be returned) and phone number. Box holder A. POB 20163, Oakland, CA 94620-0163.

WANTED GWM, alone and needing a place to live, board and room in the country in exchange for some help around the house, yard, vegetable garden, and ranch. You might be on S.S.I. or limited disability and have some income for personal use or you may be younger and have an off-the-ranch, part-time job. You should be the kind of person who needs to be busy, needs to care and be cared for, a non-smoker/drinker/drugger, good lookin', clean shaven, short haired, good humor, and proud. Average to skinny in weight. Into safe sex, "cut," a/p french. Yours truly, older GWM, 165—5-10, likewise to the above; needs a lover-son-helpmate. The ranch is in the foothills, about 1500 ft. elevation, above the smog and fog and below the snow, secluded, 560 acres. Have cattle, horses, motorcycles, pickups, farm equipment all for work. Not far from town, nice house, your own room, good barn and workin' cattle corrals. Hurry, spring time is coming, lot of things we need to do like planting the flower and vegetable gardens, planting the fields, you can watch things grow and be proud you had a part in it. There are all sorts of possibilities. Come and be part of my family. I'm quiet and discreet. Only serious, any age, people need apply. Relationship hoped for. No fats, fems, leathers, kinkies, beards or long hairs, please. Reply to PL No. 125, c/o The Patlar, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

GWM 28, 5'10', 150 lbs., nice looking, blond hair, blue eyes and relationship inclined. Looking for: honest, sincere, secure, loving, masculine, hairy (beard or moustache pref.), versatile, gentle, nice looking, non-smoker, non-drinker, non druggie, GWM between 30-45 also looking for relationship. If you fit the above, please send your photo and phone no. to: Mr. Right PL-120, c/o Patlar, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822. I will return the same. I know you're out there!

LOVING FRIEND
Prof GWM mid-40s, stable homebody—reading, TV, good conversation, movies, concerts, dinner out, nonsmoker-drinker, nonfundamentalist but love truth-beauty, good humor seeks same, mid 20s to late 30s in Sacramento area for long-term relationship. Write PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

VERY HANDSOME, masculine GWM 23, 5' 10" 155 lbs wants relationship with white, latin, or oriental under 30. I'm employed, but willing to relocate to be with you. Interests include charity, business, nature, martial arts, running and tennis. I desire an attractive lover. I like top and bottom sex. If you're attractive and caring, make contact now! Send photo to receive mine. L. Carr c/o General Delivery, Oakley, CA 94561.



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PATLAR

Voice of Gay America

FEBRUARY 1986

valentine \'val-ən-,tīn\ n: Sweetheart chosen or complimented on St. Valentine's Day;
sweet • heart \'swēt-,härt\ n: A loved person: LOVER;
lover \'lov•er\ n: 1. CHERISH 2. to feel a passion, devotion, or tenderness for 3. CARESS 4. to take pleasure in
friend \'frend\ n 1: a person attached to another by respect or affection: ACQUAINTANCE

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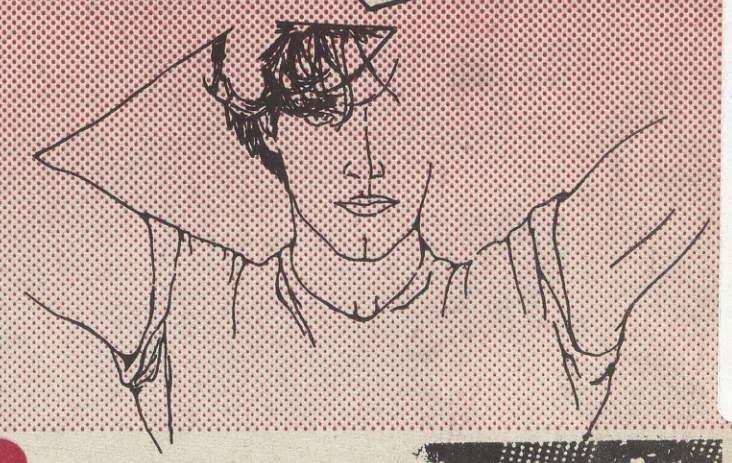

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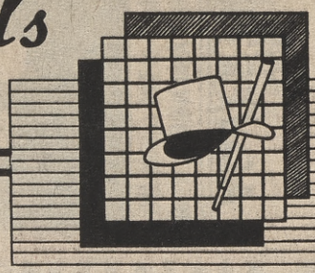

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Champagne Brunch Special:

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